THE WONDER WORLD OF THE

DEEP SEA

MARIE NEURATH

A PARRISH COLOUR BOOK FOR CHILDREN

THE WONDER WORLD OF THE DEEP SEA

by Marie Neurath

The heights of Everest have been conquered, but the depths of the sea are almost unexplored. It is only recently that man has discovered some of the secrets of the strange creatures that live far down in this vast, dark world. What do they look like? How do they find food? What dangers lie hidden in the darkness?

These questions are all answered in this book: A battle of the giants beneath the sea – The fish that goes fishing with a rod and a light – He swallows a meal as big as himself – Living hiding places in the deep sea – The largest animal in the world eats the smallest creatures in the sea.

By using clear, simple text and illustrations that have just sufficient detail, Marie Neurath has succeeded in opening a door for every child to a strange, little-known world.

See back flap for other titles

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THE WONDER WORLD OF THE DEEP SEA

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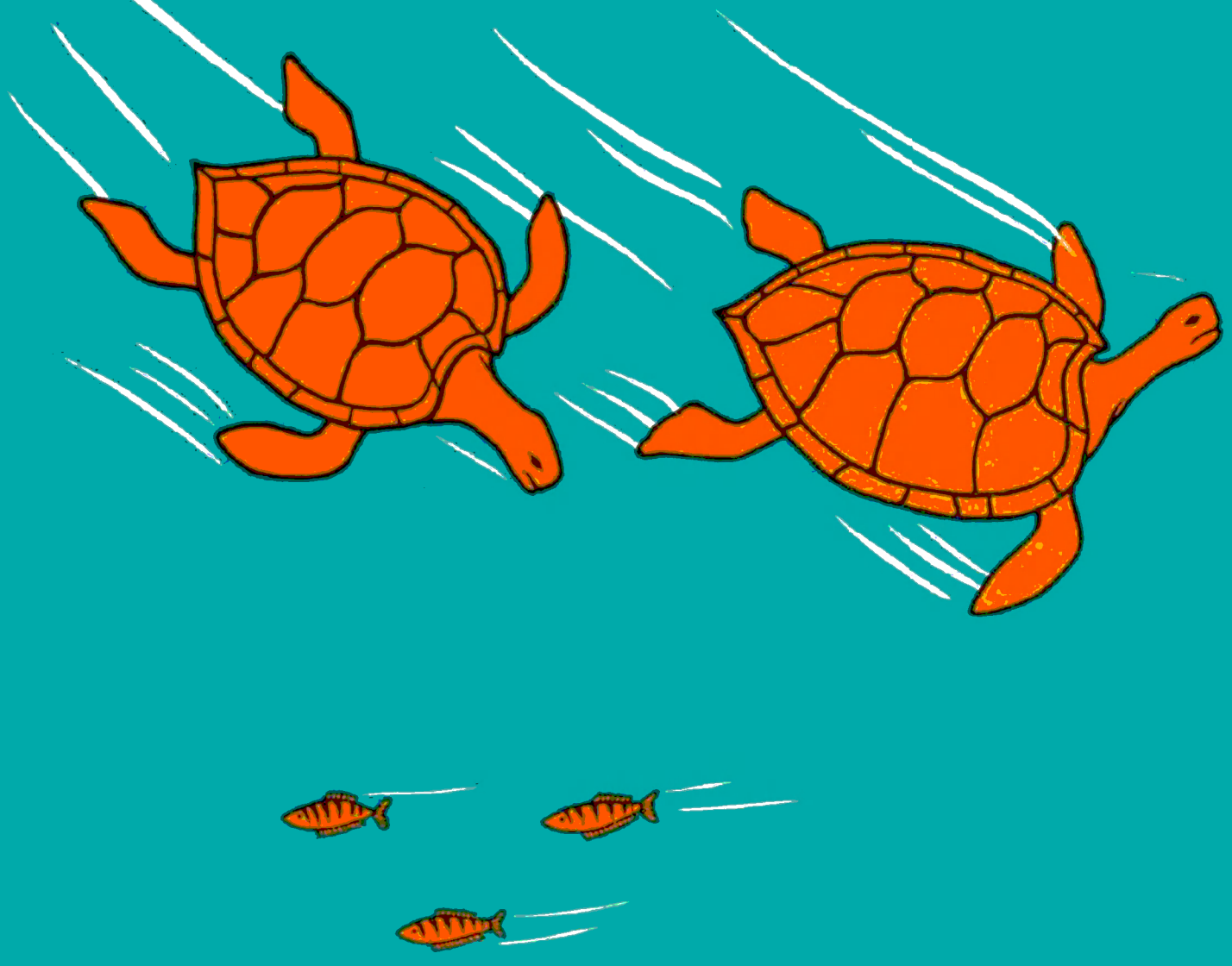

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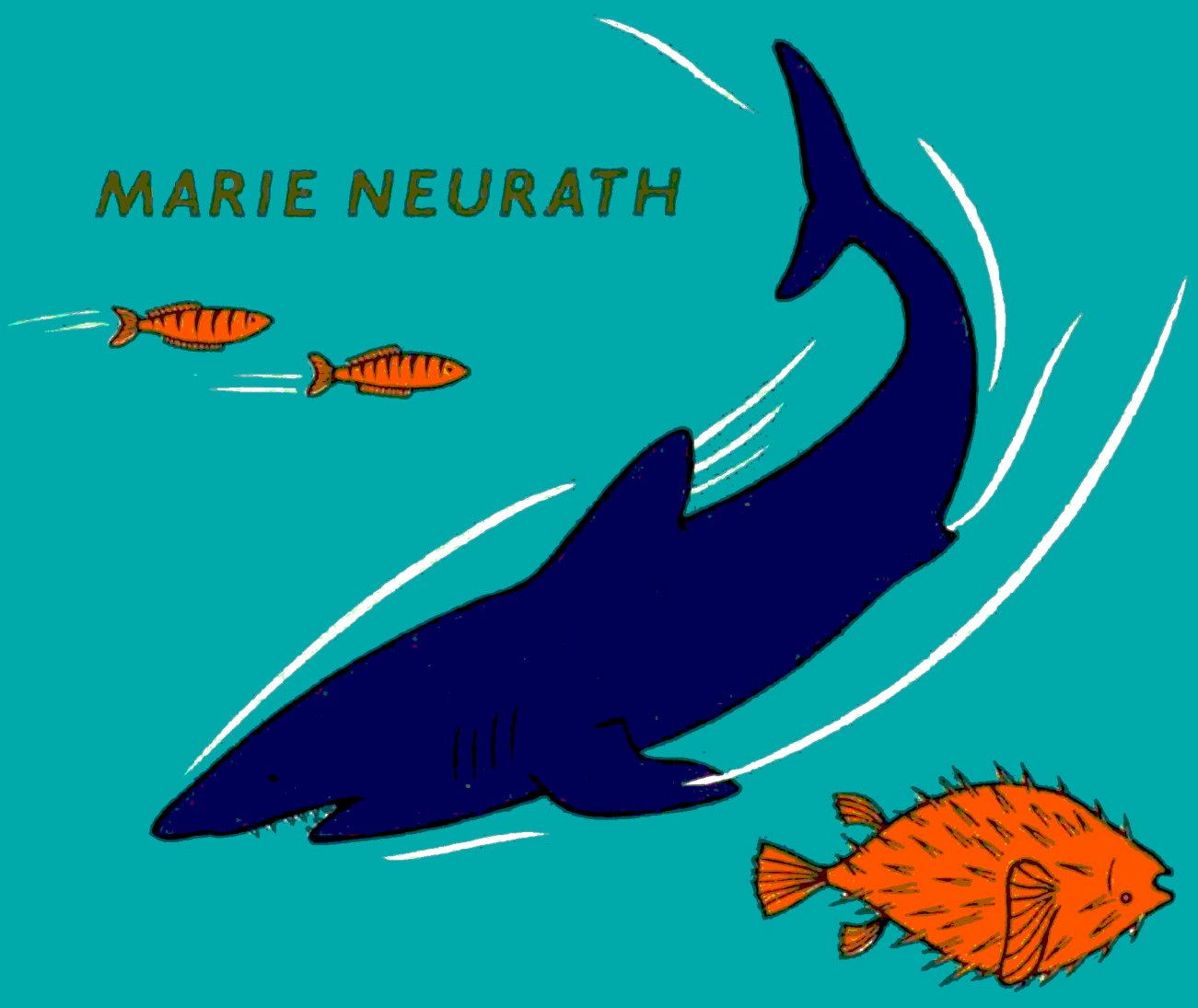
DEEP SEA

MARIE NEURATH



Max Parrish London

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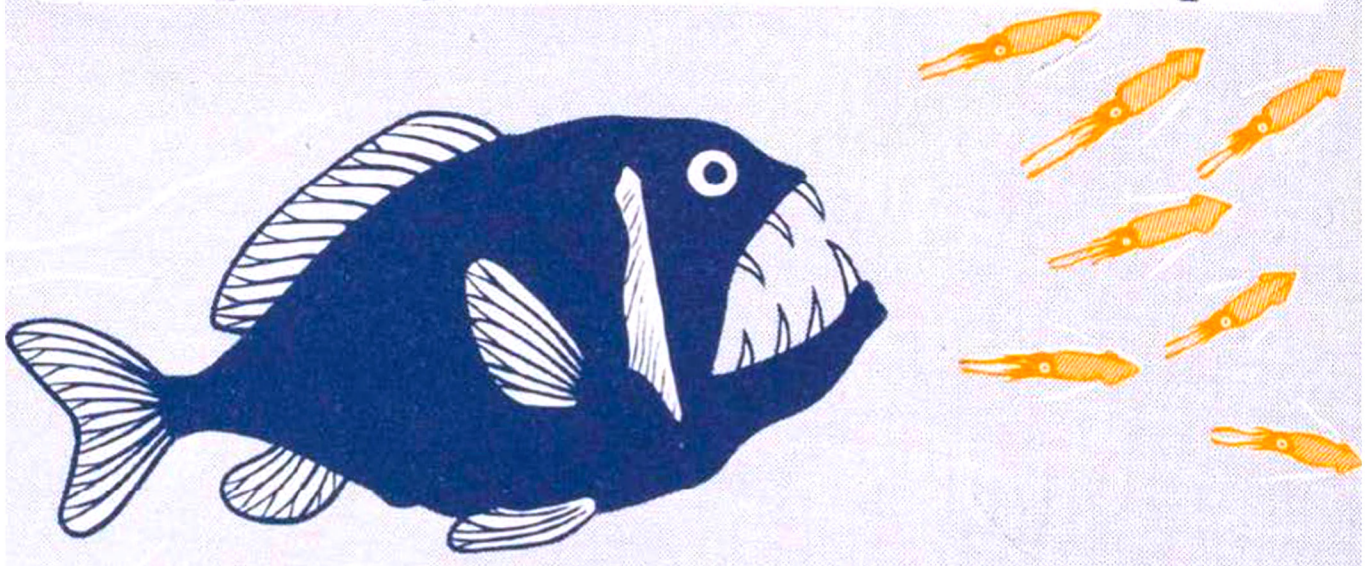
Strange Creatures of the Deep Sea

Some fish, near the sunlit surface, can leave the water and fly; some, in the twilight lower down, have large eyes to catch the light; others, in the darkness near the bottom, carry lights of their own to help them to see.

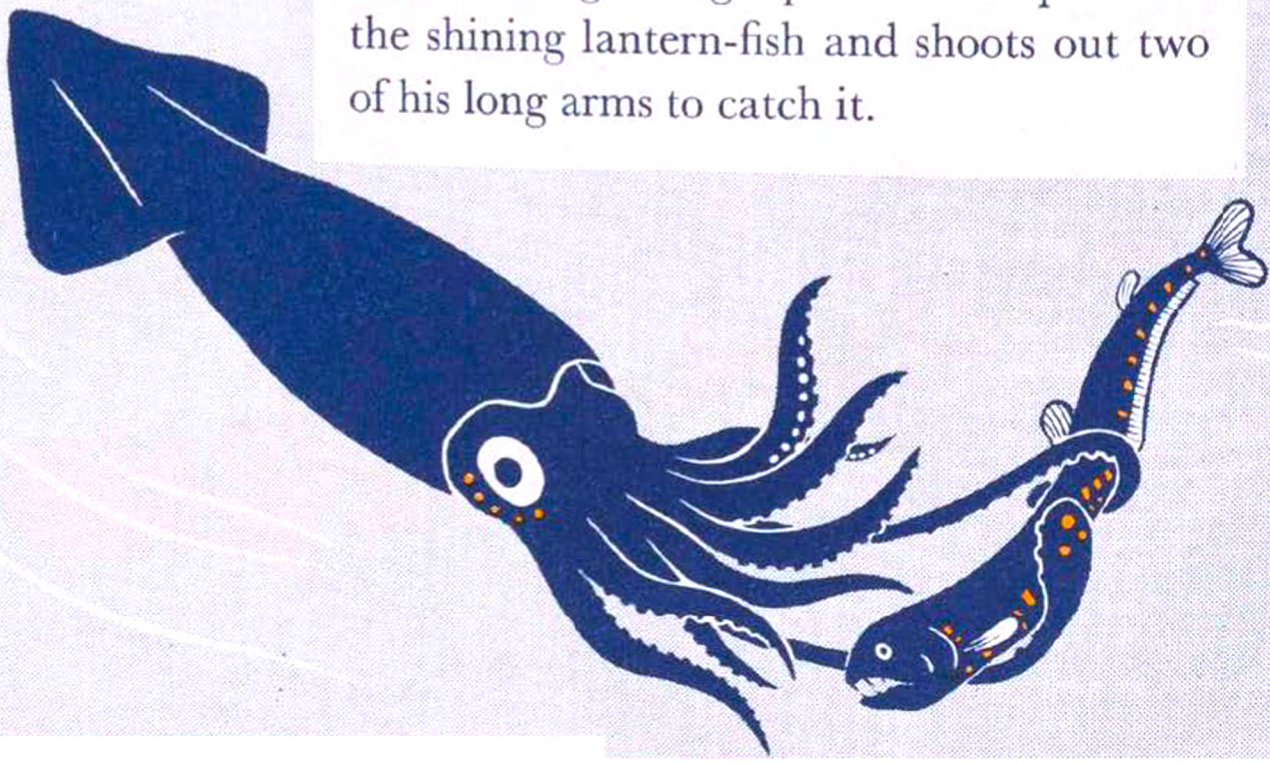
A Battle of the Giants Beneath the Sea

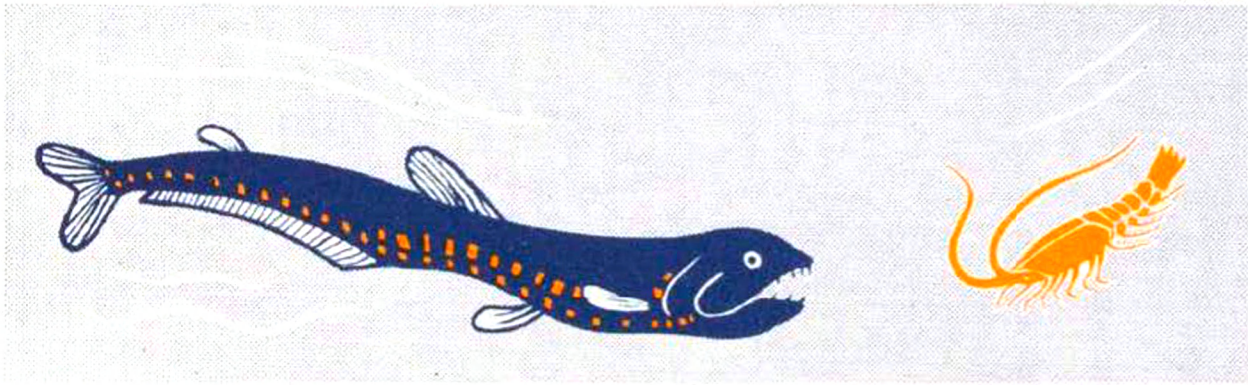
This sperm whale, several times as big as an elephant, usually swims near the surface. Now he has swooped deep down to search for food. He opens his mighty jaws and attacks the giant squid. The squid fights fiercely with its ten long arms; the whale will carry scars from its powerful suckers. The sea-devil, which was being chased by the squid, escapes during the fight.

Living Lamps in the Dark Sea Depths

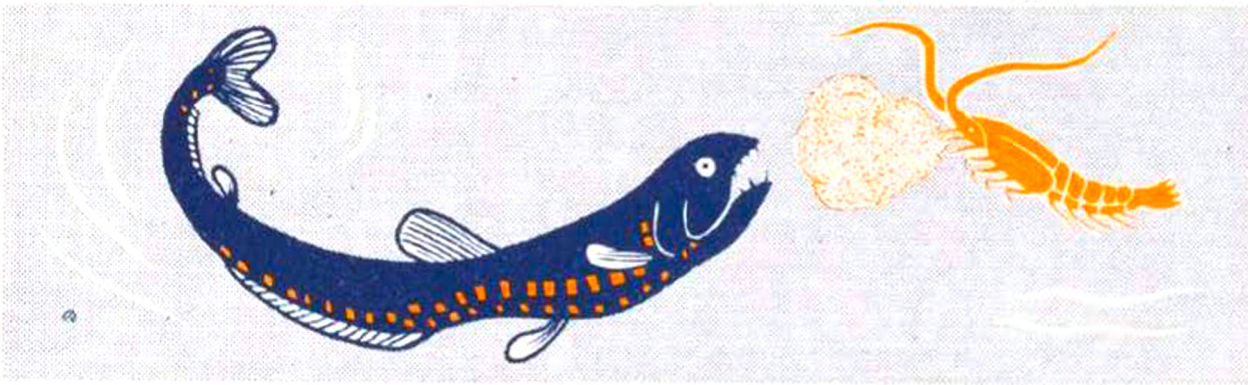


Lights can sometimes be dangerous. With hungry jaws wide open, the dragon-fish follows the glowing squids. The squid sees the shining lantern-fish and shoots out two of his long arms to catch it.





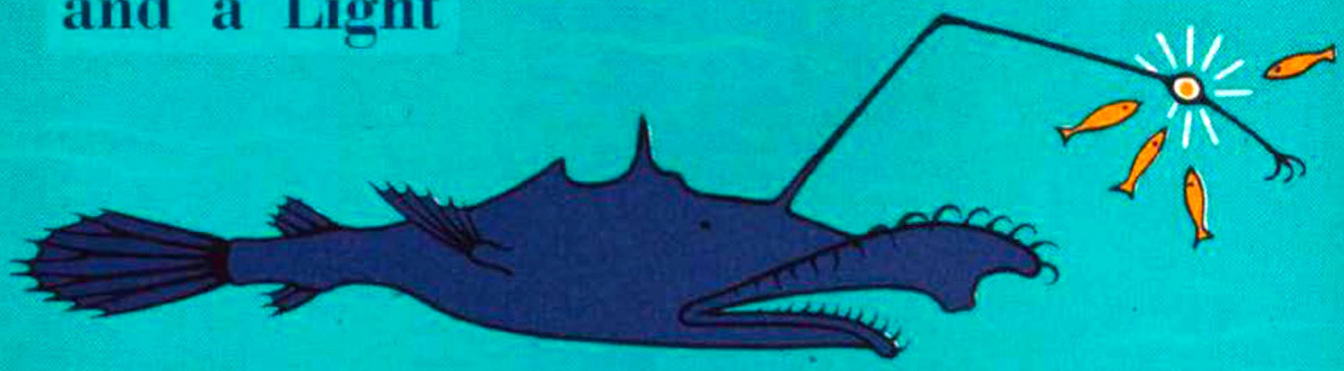
The lantern-fish's own light shows him a prawn and he chases it.



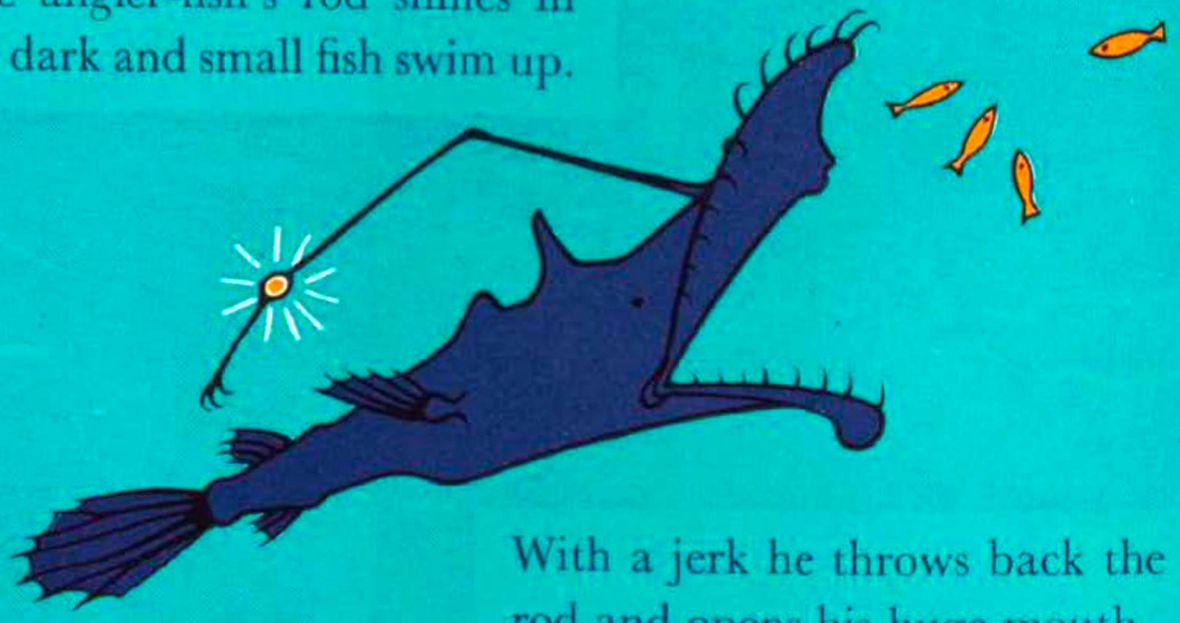
The prawn turns and squirts out a cloud of shiny slime.

By the time the lantern-fish can see again, the prawn has gone.

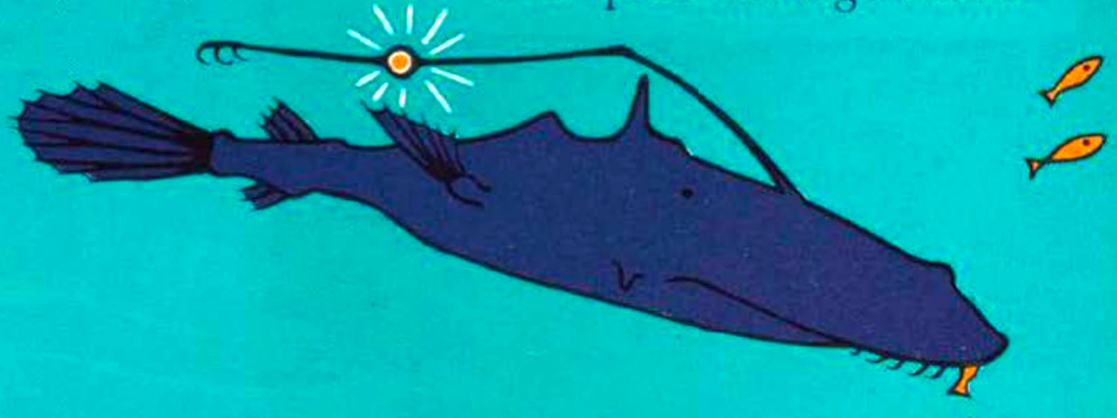
The Fish that Goes Fishing with a Rod and a Light



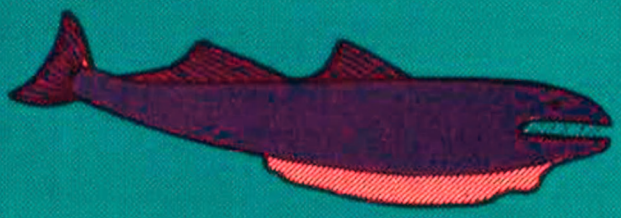
The angler-fish's rod shines in the dark and small fish swim up.



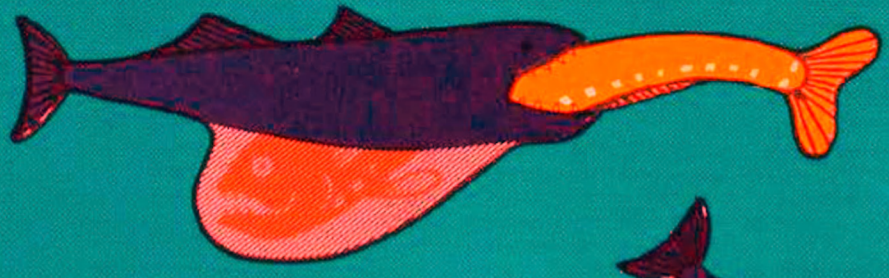
With a jerk he throws back the rod and opens his huge mouth.

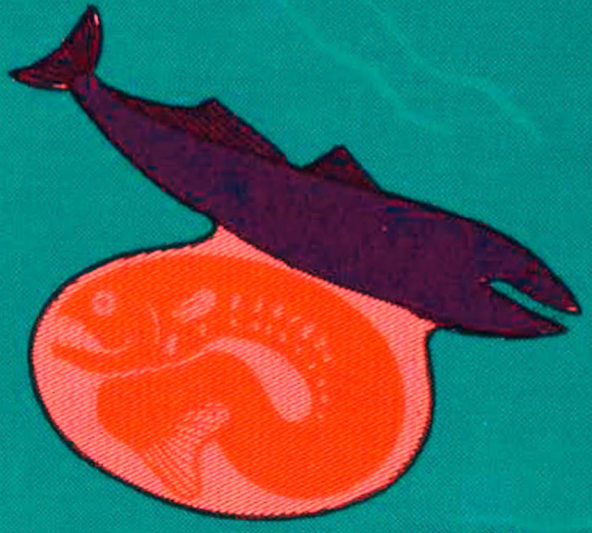


He Swallows a Meal as Big as Himself



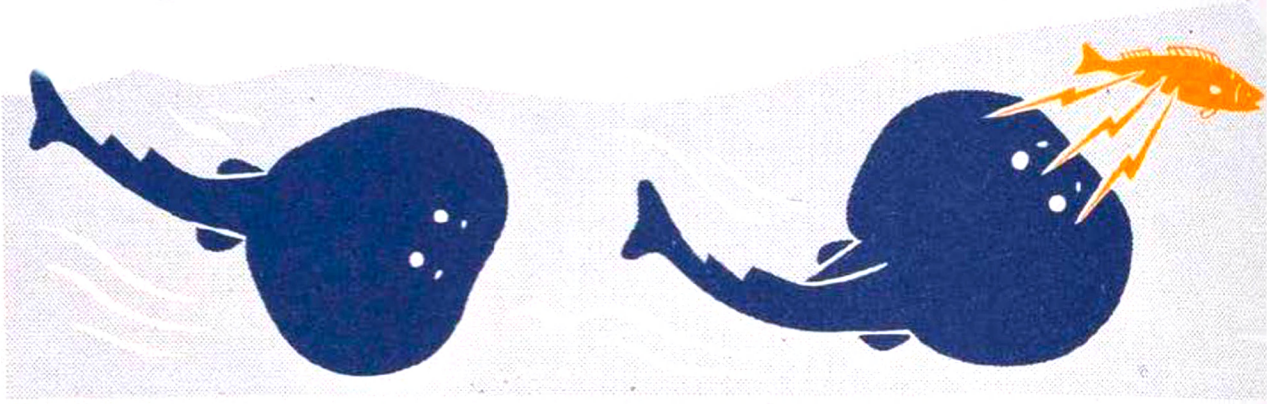
The black swallower sees a lantern-fish as big as himself. Suddenly he snaps.



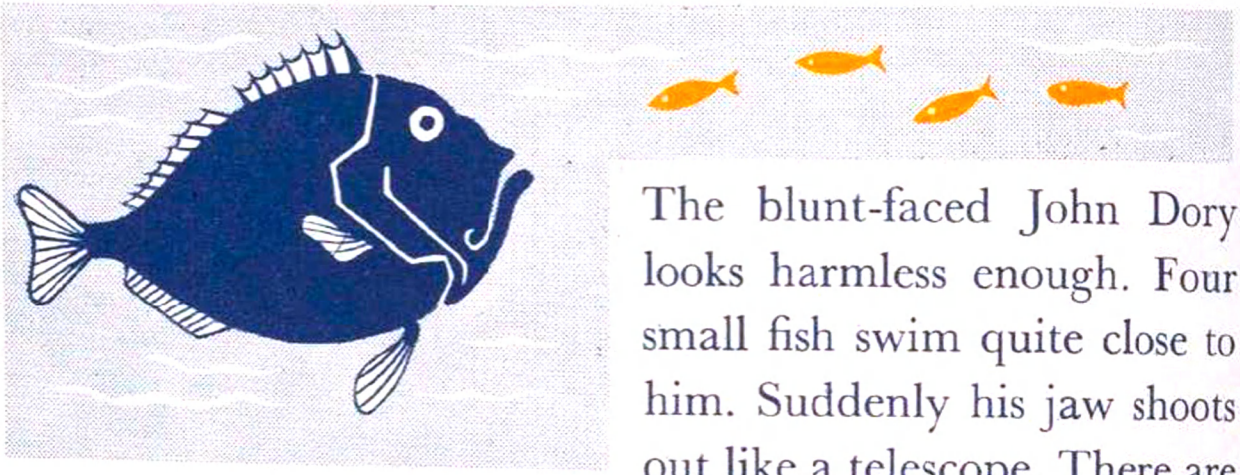


With his huge, hinged jaws he swallows it whole. His stomach bulges, crammed with a meal that will last for several days.

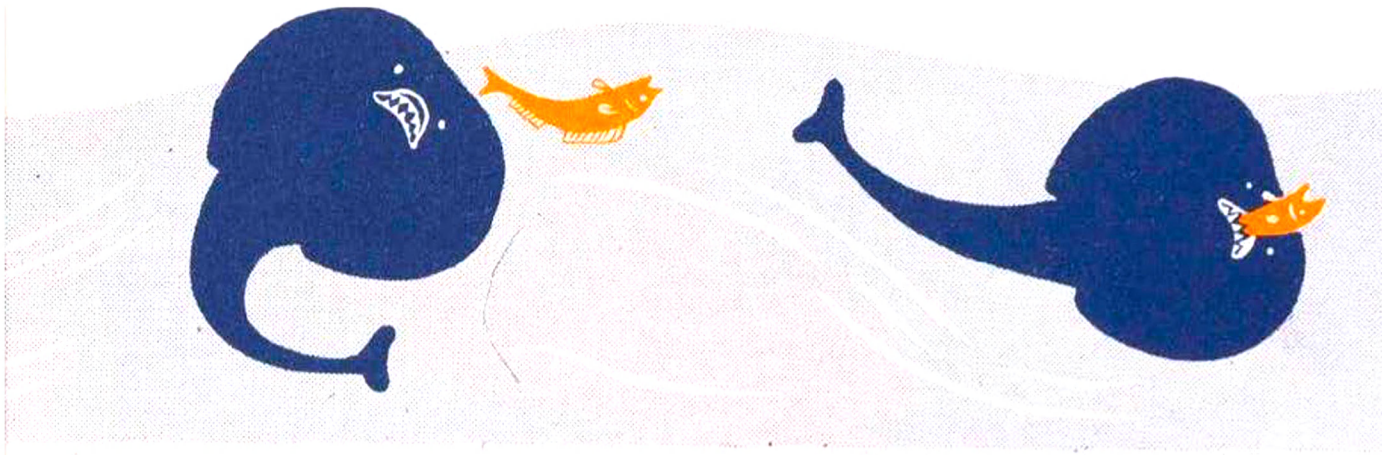
Strange Swift Ways of Catching a Meal



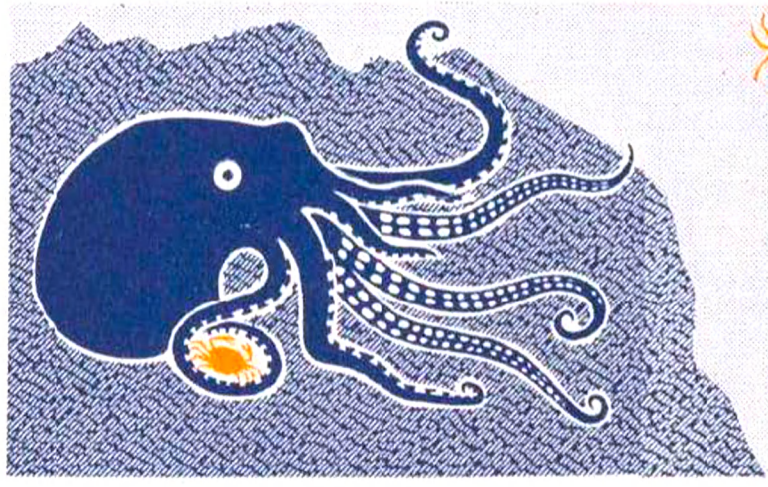
The torpedo ray swims under a small fish. Then he darts up and

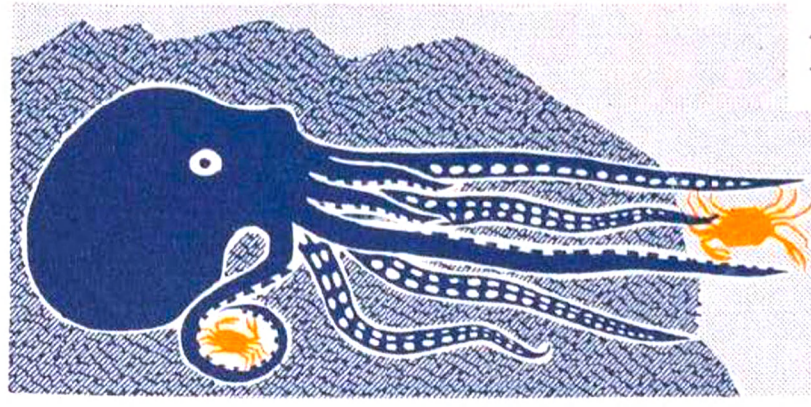


The blunt-faced John Dory looks harmless enough. Four small fish swim quite close to him. Suddenly his jaw shoots out like a telescope. There are only three small fish left to swim away.



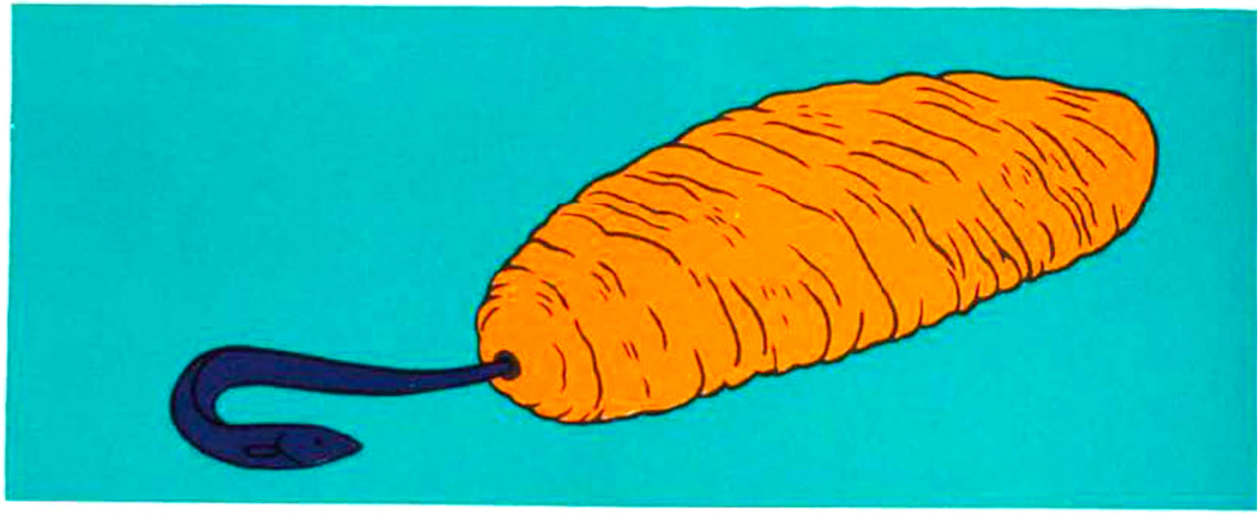
gives it an electric shock. While it is still stunned, he eats it.



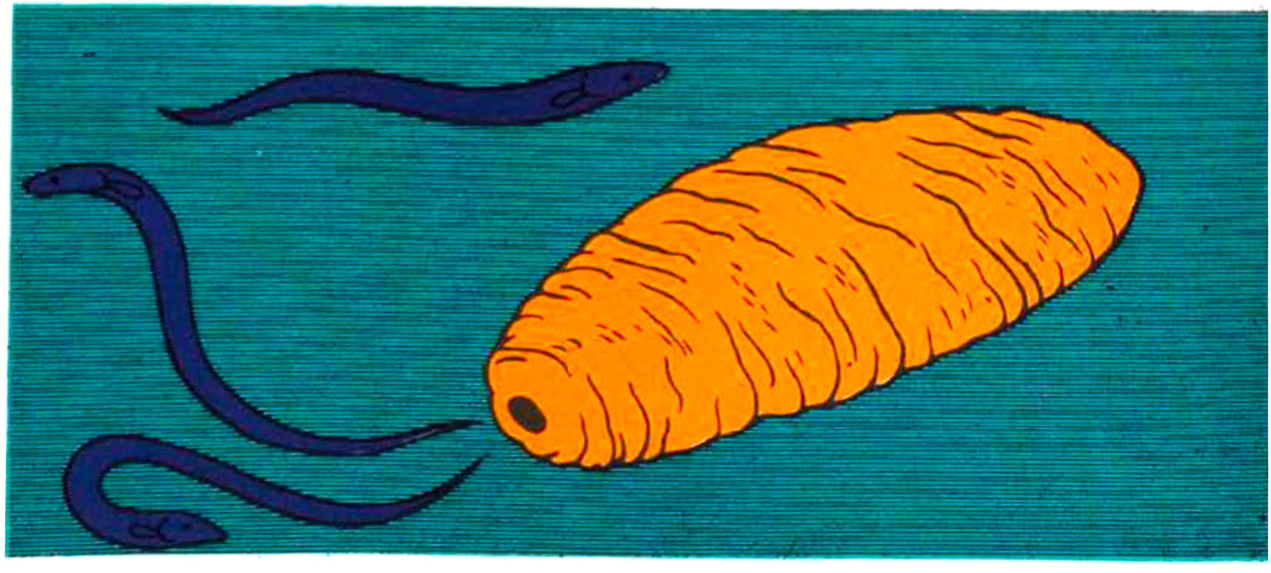


Hidden amongst the rocks the octopus lies still, watching and waiting. A crab crawls near. The octopus flashes out its long arms and pulls the crab in.

Living Hiding Places in the Deep Sea

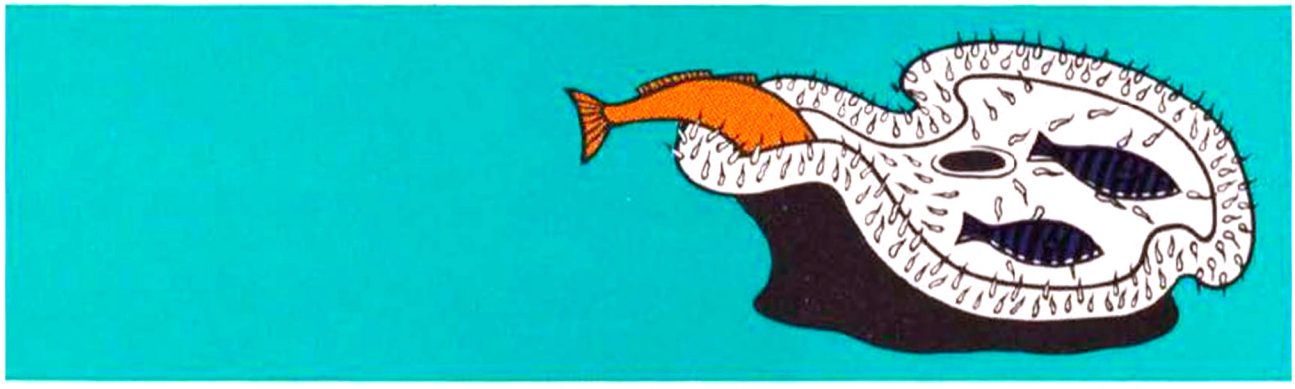


The sea-cucumber is an animal which looks like a plant. By day, the slim creature wriggles tail first right inside it.



When it is dark, he comes out to search for food. But he was not hiding alone. Two other creatures swim out with him.

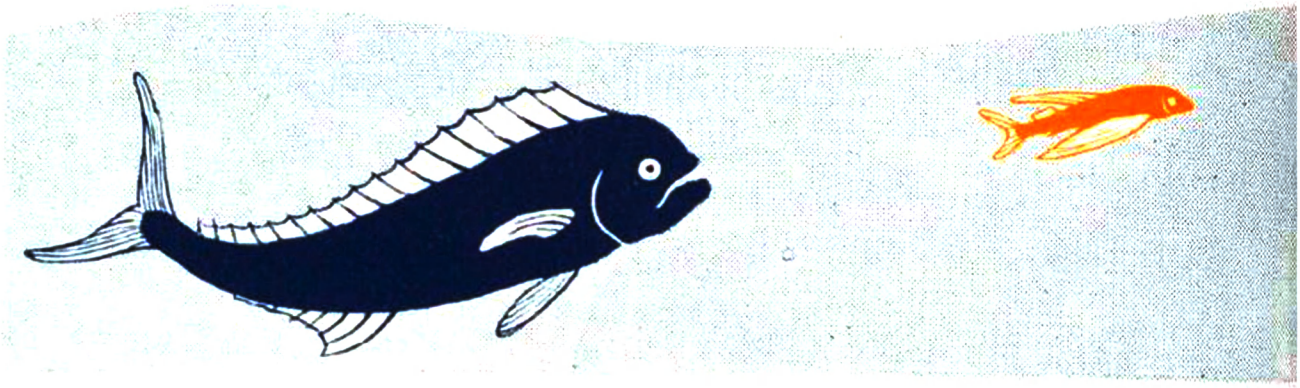
The coral fish can safely dart among the sea anemone's stings.



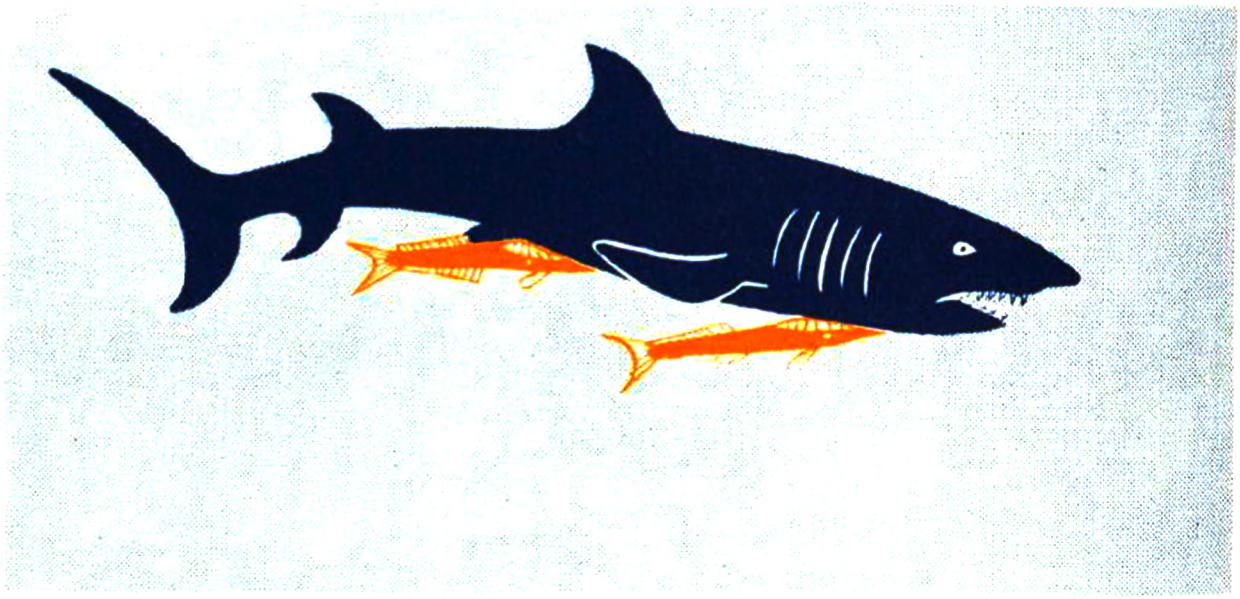
But when the big fish follows them there, he is stung to death.

The anemone swallows his meal while the coral fish swim off.

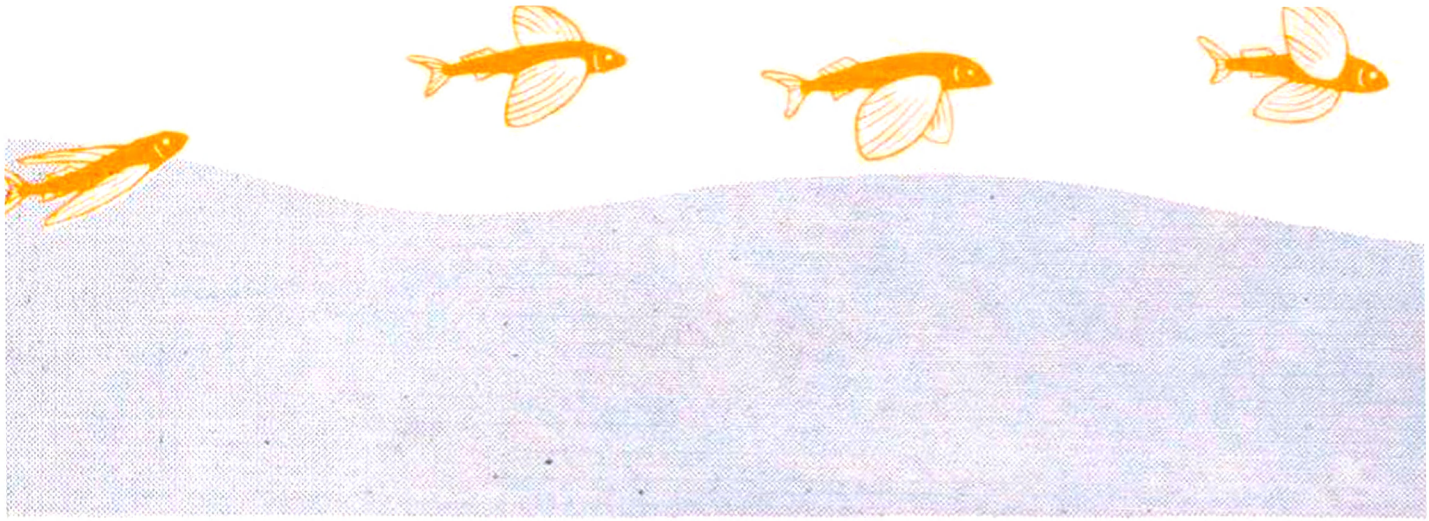
Flying Fish and Riding Fish



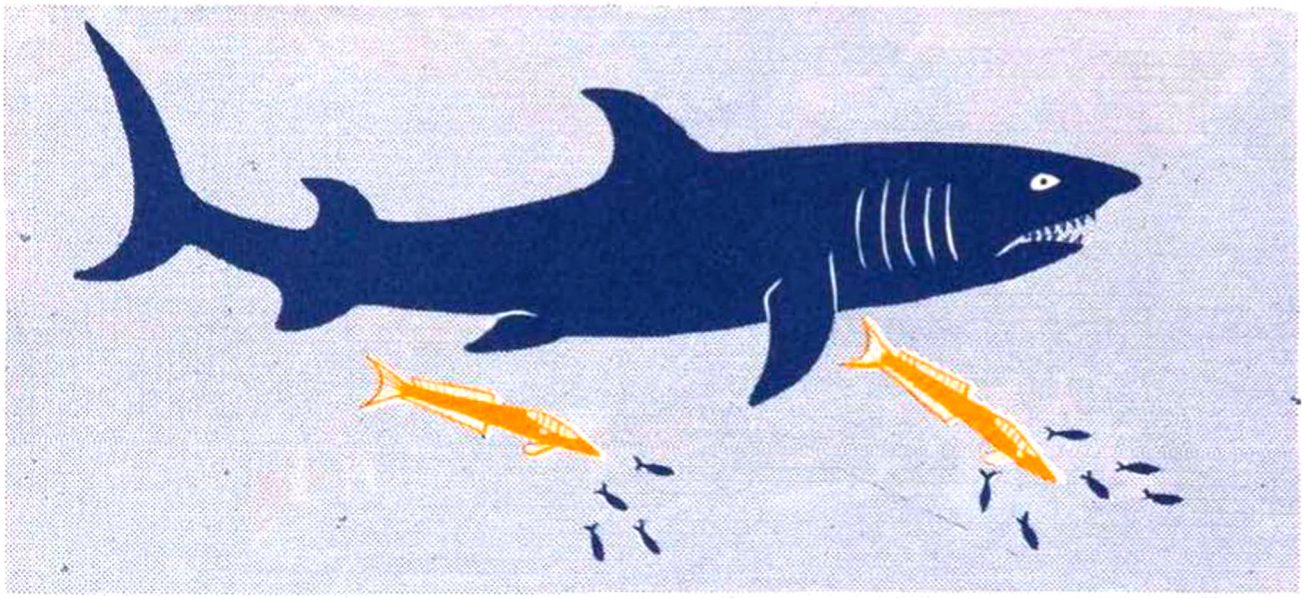
When they are chased, these creatures leap clean out of the water.



This small fish has an easy way of travelling. He uses the sucker on his head to fasten himself to a passing shark.



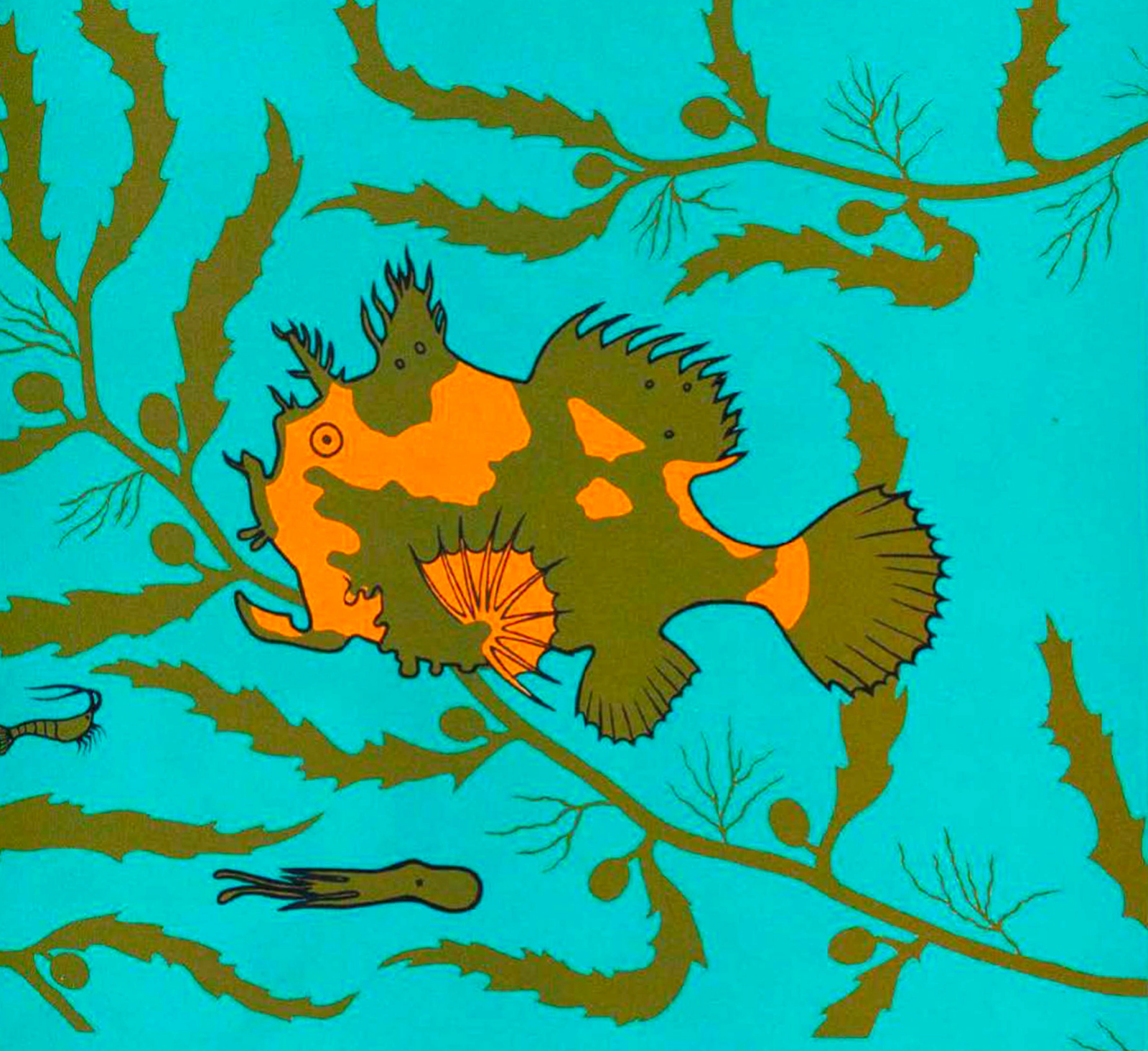
They are flying fish, and can use their fins like wings, for gliding.



He clings to the shark until it reaches a place where he can find food. Then he unfastens himself and swims to his meal.

The Huge Jungle Sea in Mid-Atlantic

Here we can see a crab, a small squid, three brightly coloured fish and some shrimps. Near the bottom is a sea-slug, which looks like a piece of weed. The other creatures are baby eels.

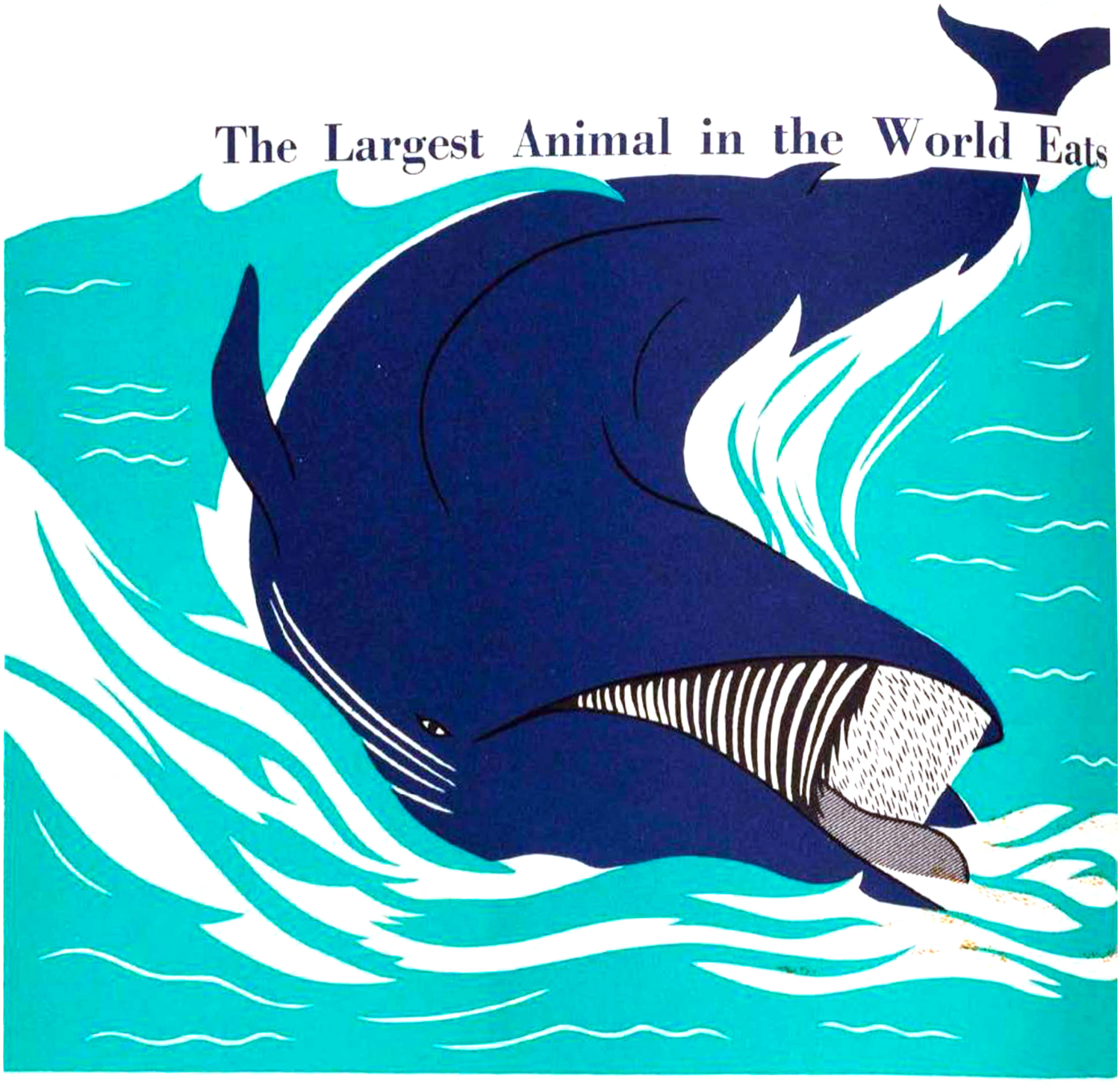


This strange under-water jungle, crowded with living things, is part of the Sargasso Sea, in the middle of the Atlantic. Swirling currents fill it with weed which many fish can live in.

The Wonderful Journey of the Eels

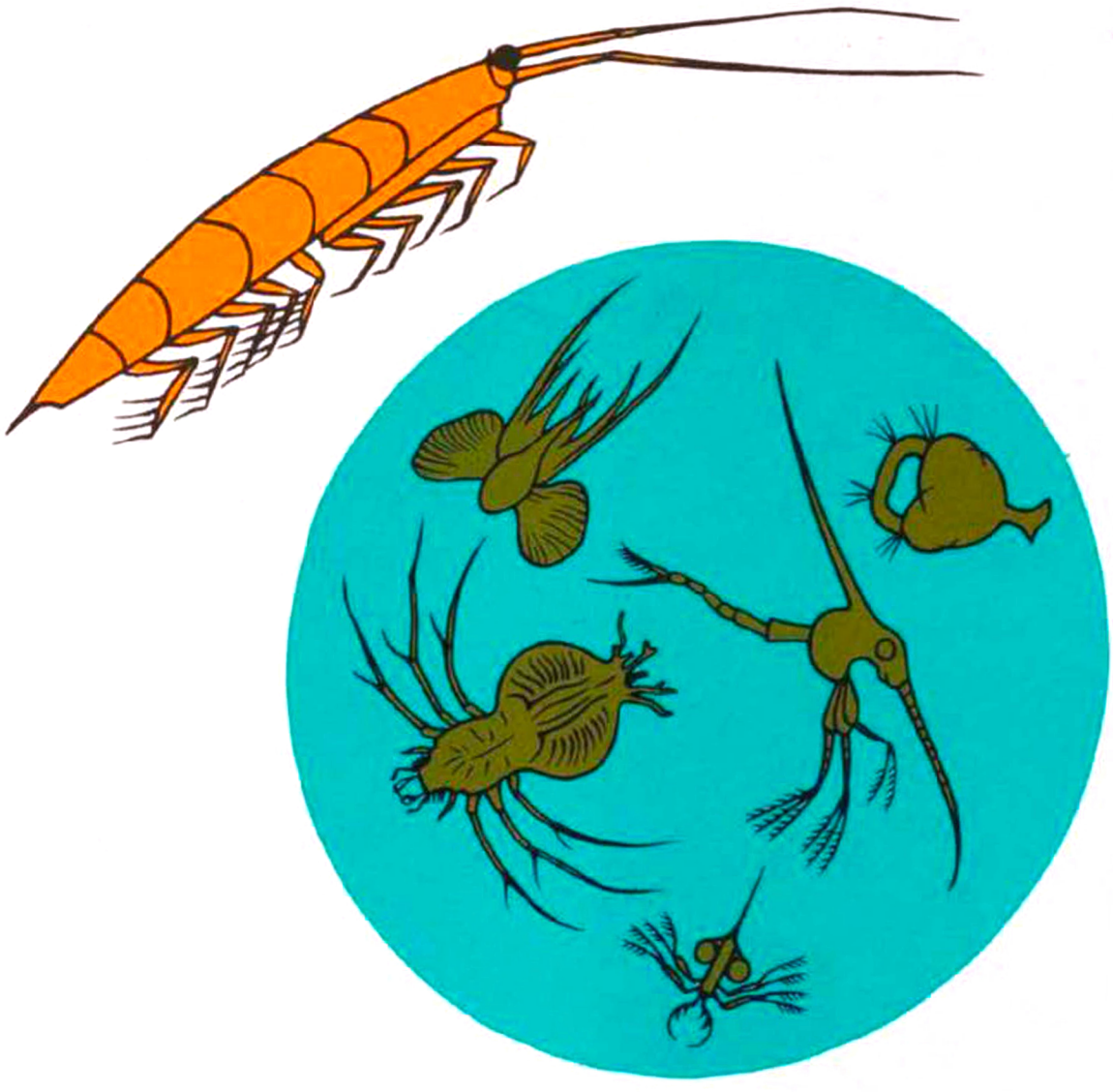
In spring, deep down below the surface of the Sargasso Sea, the baby eels are born. Slowly they drift upwards, growing short and flat, like leaves, and the flowing currents carry them to the north. One kind grows fast and turns west to the rivers of North America. The smaller eels, which grow more slowly, turn east across the wide Atlantic and it is three years before they reach the shores of Europe. From the coasts, the eels press on up the rivers, closely packed, through rapids and over waterfalls. There, for several years, they live and grow. Then, one day, they make a long last journey back to the Sargasso Sea. What happens to them, nobody knows, but their children grow up and in their turn make the *same* strange journeys.

The Largest Animal in the World Eats



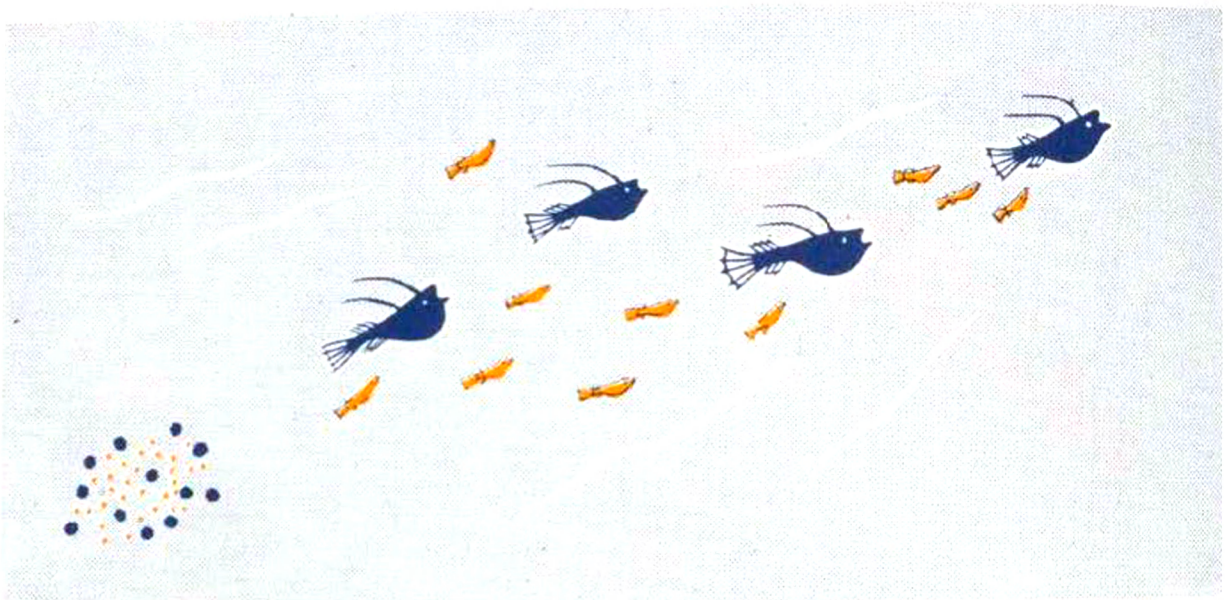
The blue whale—the biggest animal in the world—lives on the tiniest creatures in the sea. It filters them out from the sea-water by means of the forest of bony spikes in its upper jaws.

the Smallest Creatures in the Sea

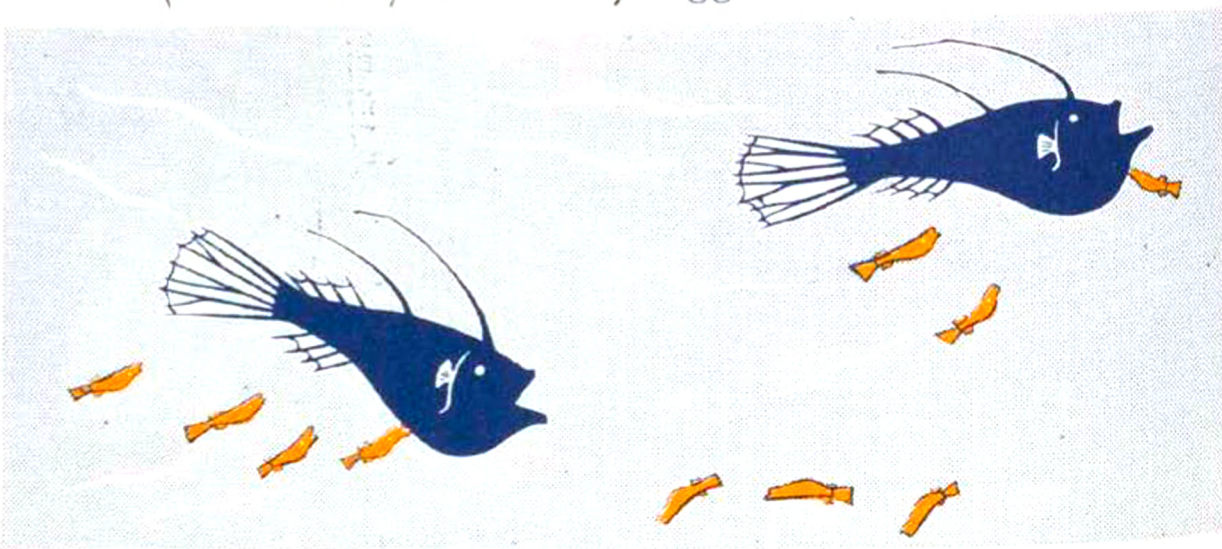


Not one of the creatures which this whale eats is bigger than a shrimp. Some are too small for the eye to see, and all are strange. Here are some of the millions which make a mouthful.

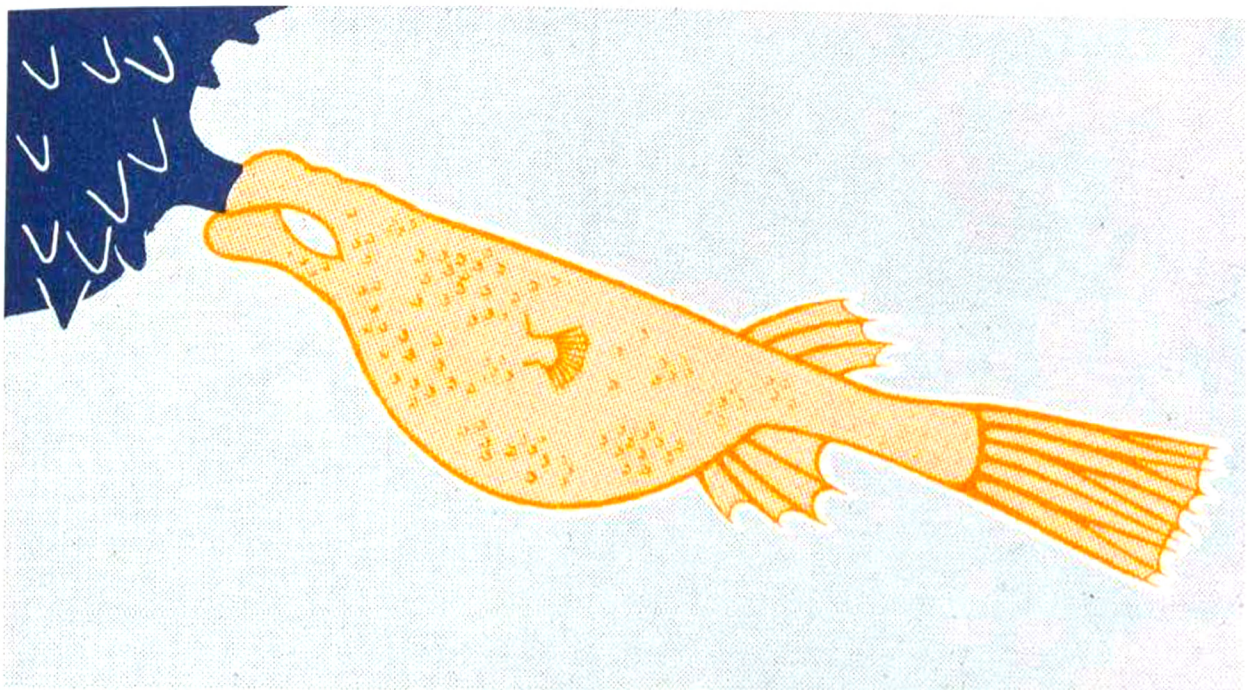
How One Fish Eats for Another



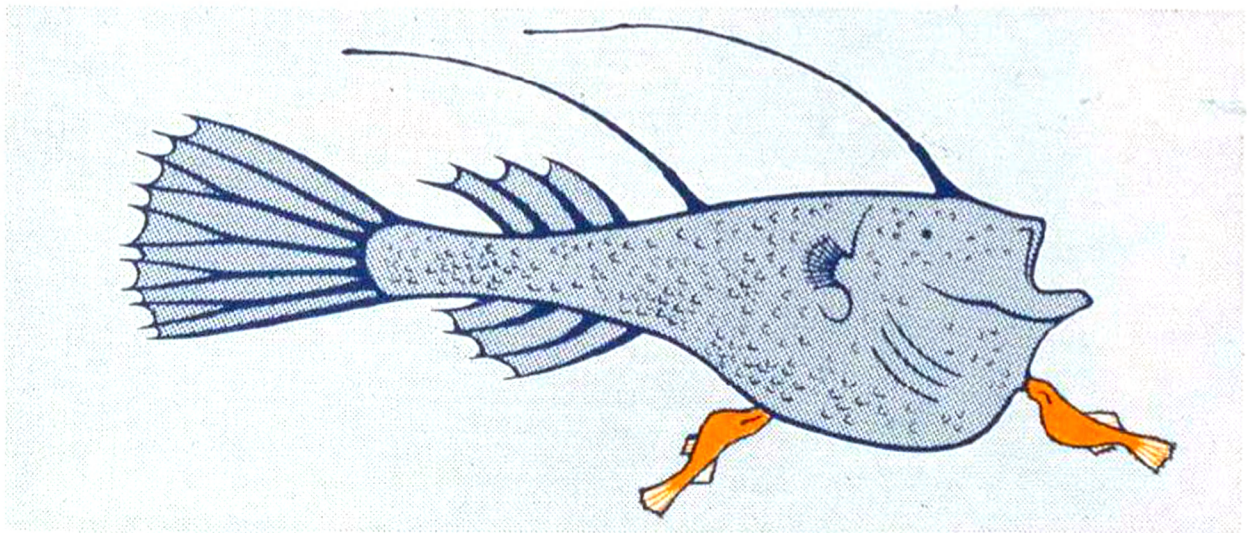
These newly-hatched angler fish all swim about together. The females (shown blue) are already bigger than the males.



The females grow fast; the males stop growing altogether. Each tries to hold on to a female. If he cannot he will die.

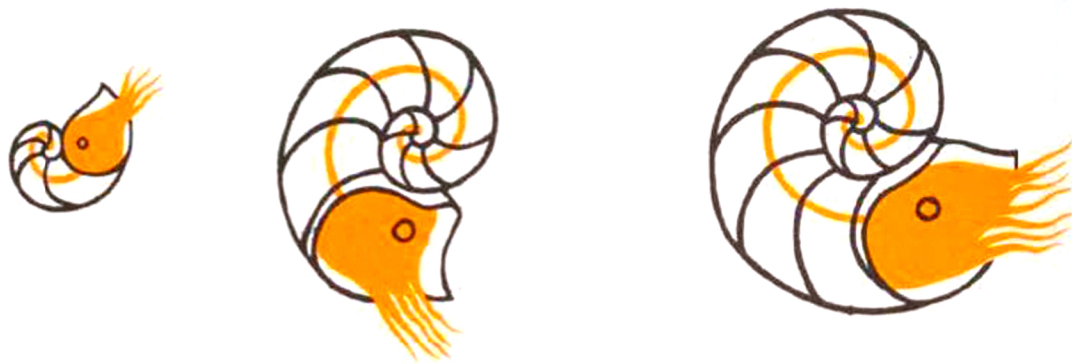


At first he simply clings on. But in time his mouth grows to the female's skin. She does all his feeding for him.

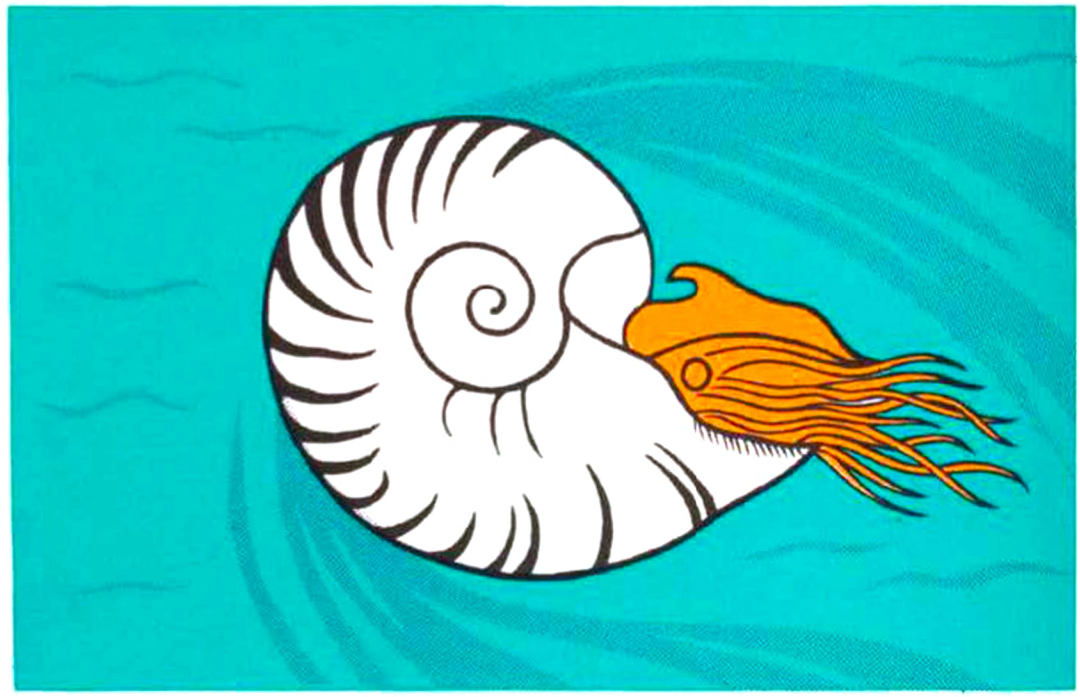


A female angler fish may have two or even three small males fixed to her and living on her for the rest of their lives.

A House of Shell with Empty Rooms

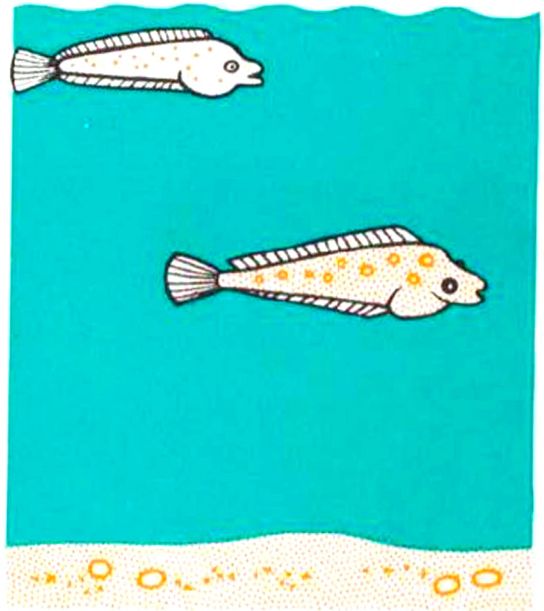


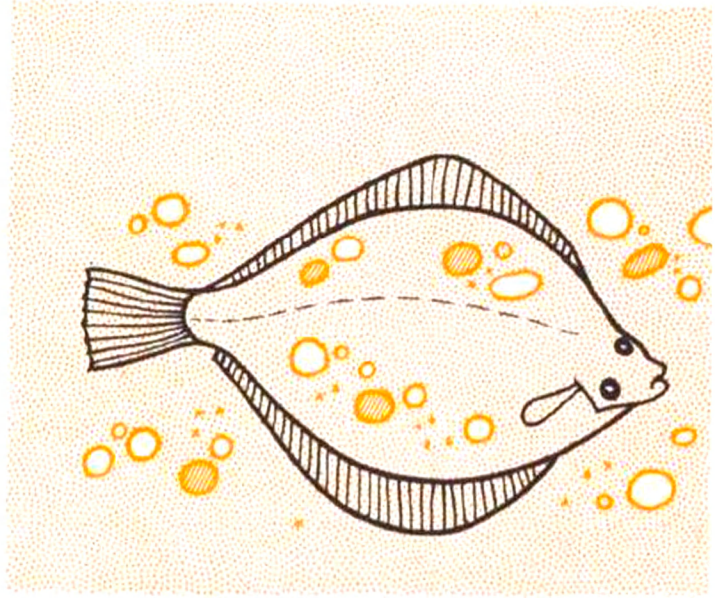
The young pearly nautilus builds himself a single room of shell. As he grows, he adds a new room and moves into it. In time he has a shell with many rooms.



All the old rooms are filled with gas, so the shell is light, and the nautilus, who swims backwards, can move quite fast.

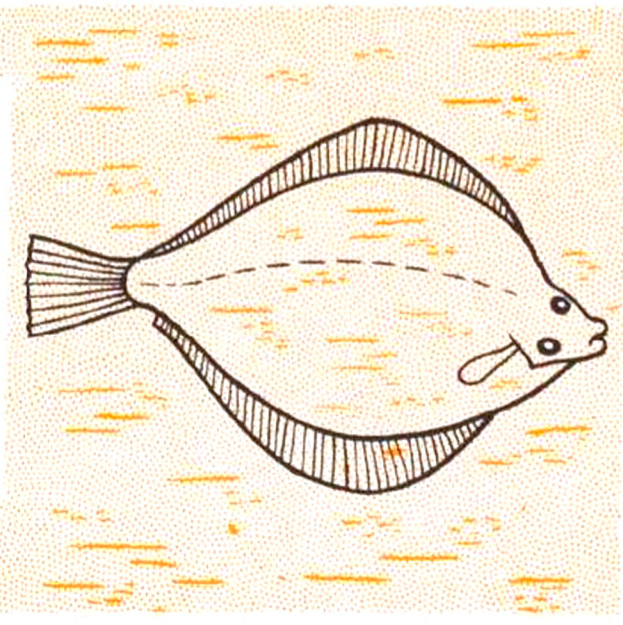
The Flat Plaice You Cannot See



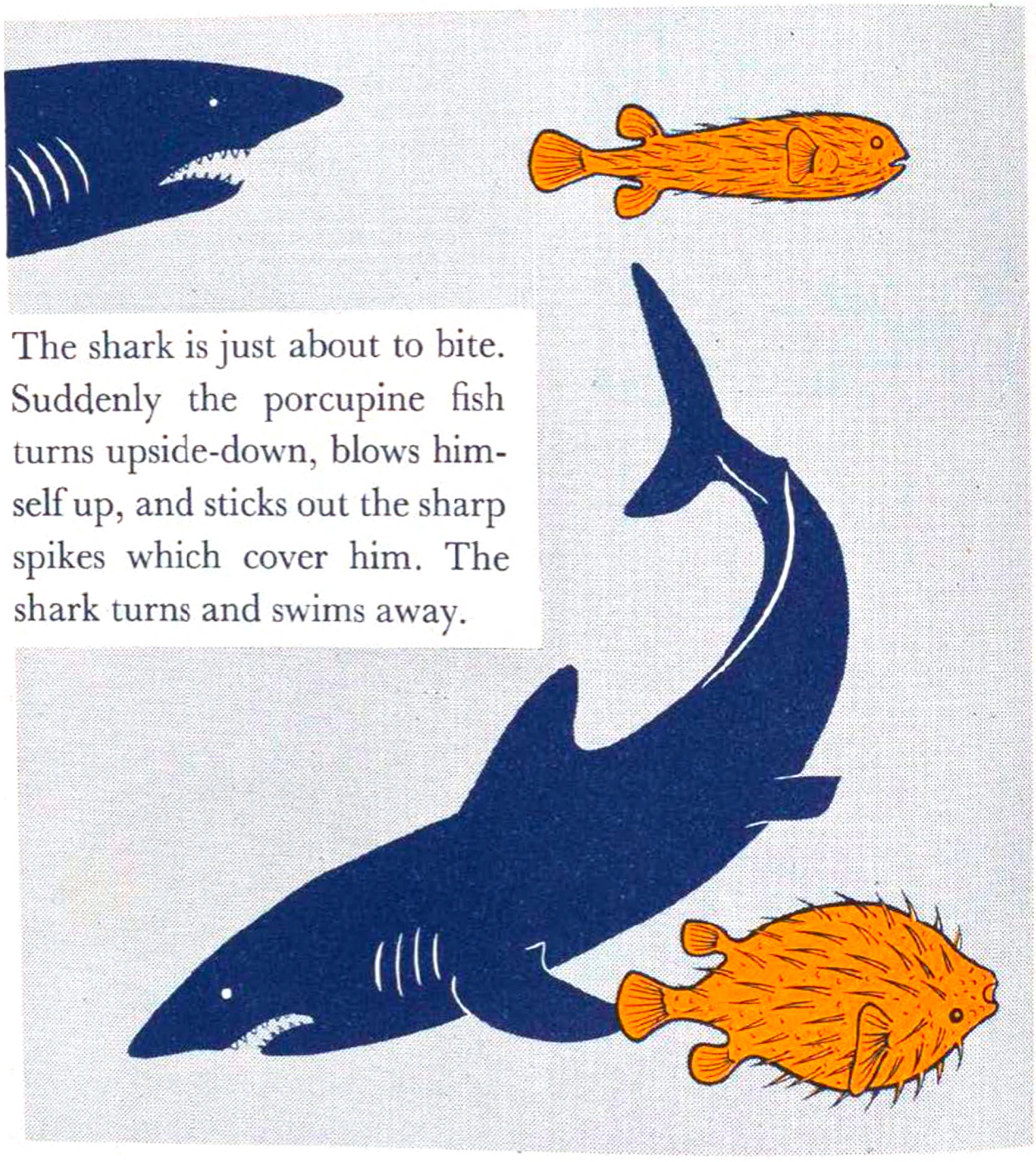


The young plaice has one eye on each side of its head. Gradually, the left eye moves to the right until both eyes are on the same side. As it grows, it lies on its left side on the sea-bed.

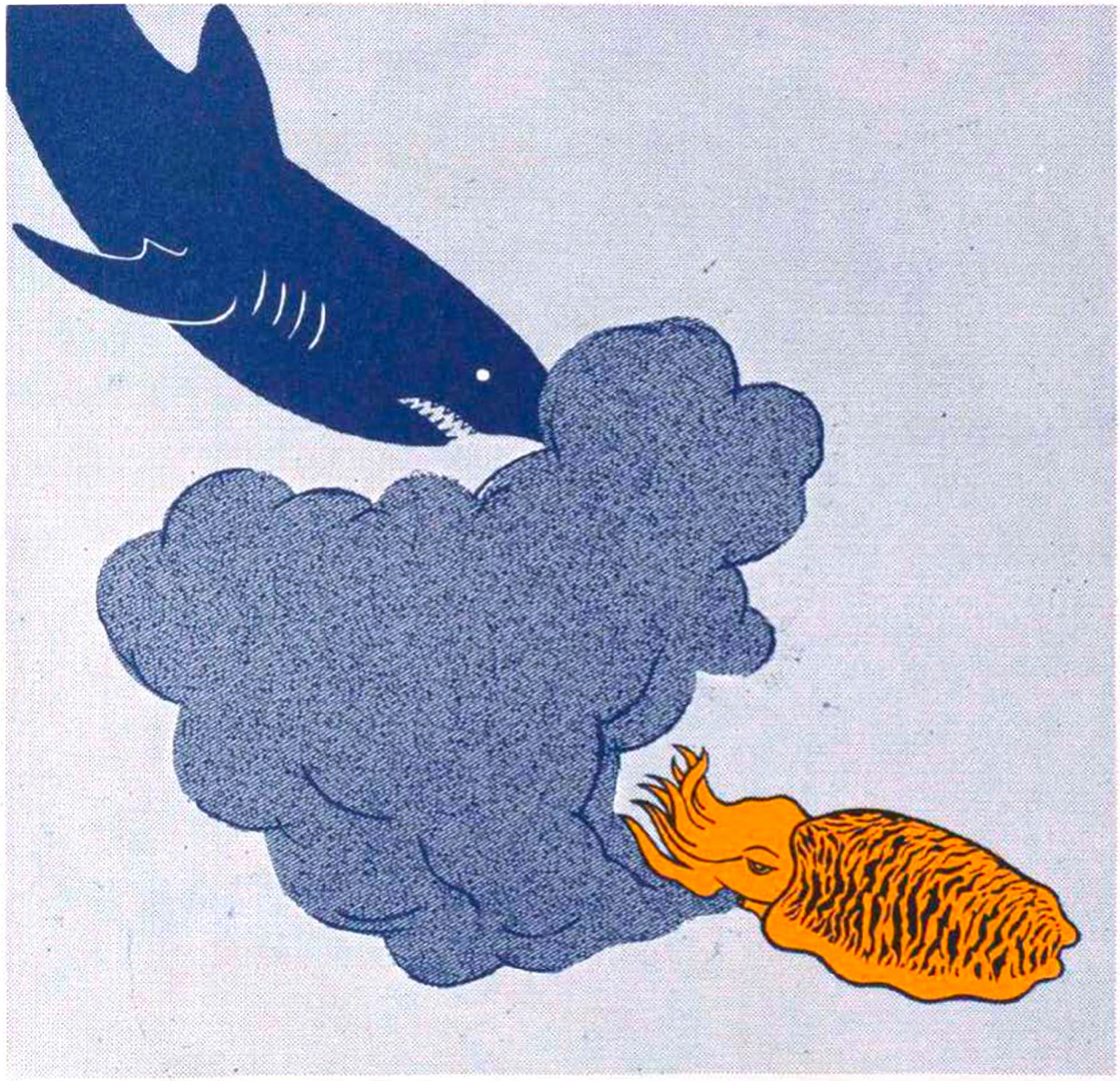
Its skin takes the same colour as the sea bed. If there are pebbles there, the plaice's skin looks as if it has pebbles on it too. Then its enemies cannot see it.



How Small Fish Foil the Killer of the Seas

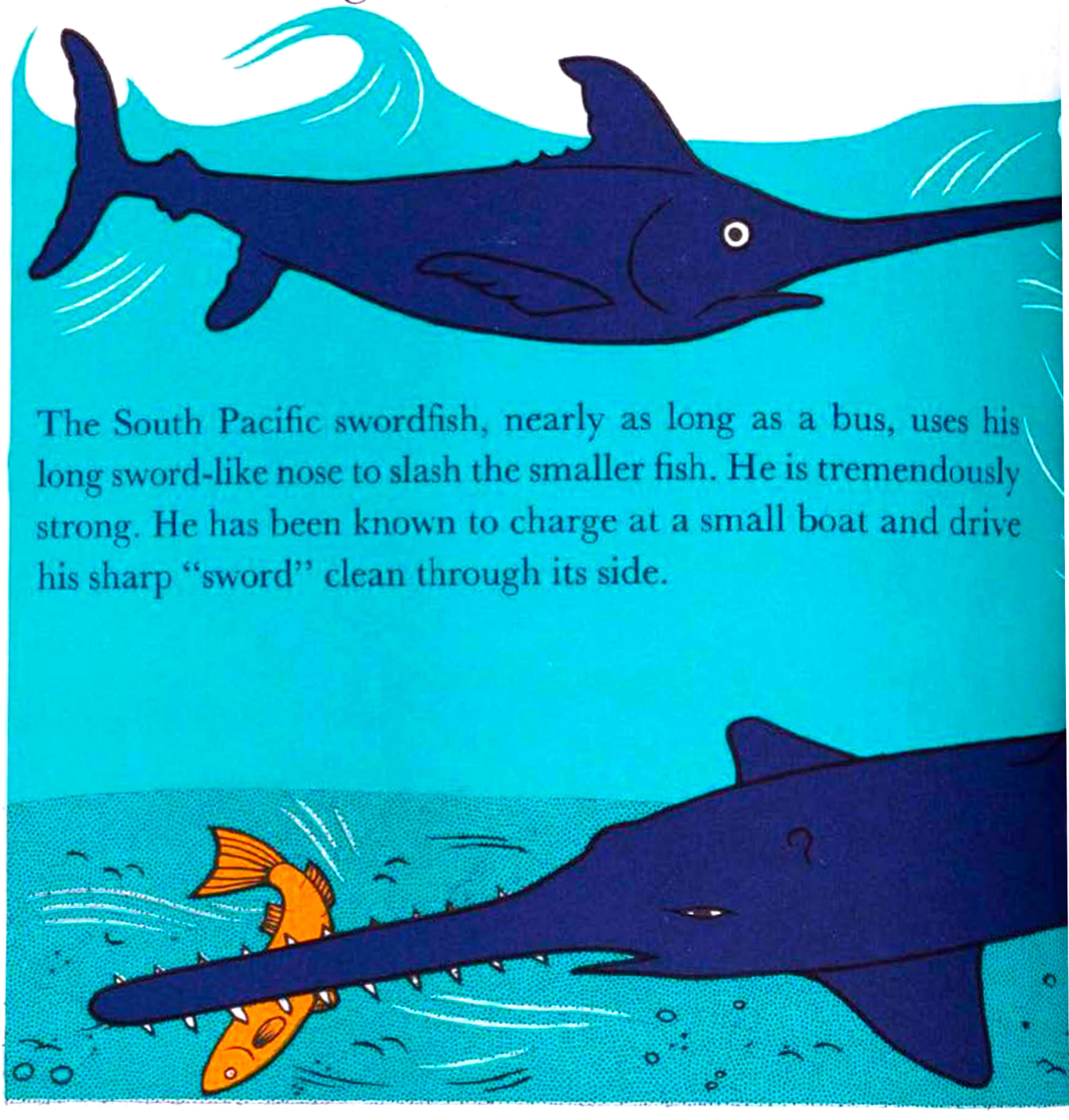


The shark is just about to bite. Suddenly the porcupine fish turns upside-down, blows himself up, and sticks out the sharp spikes which cover him. The shark turns and swims away.

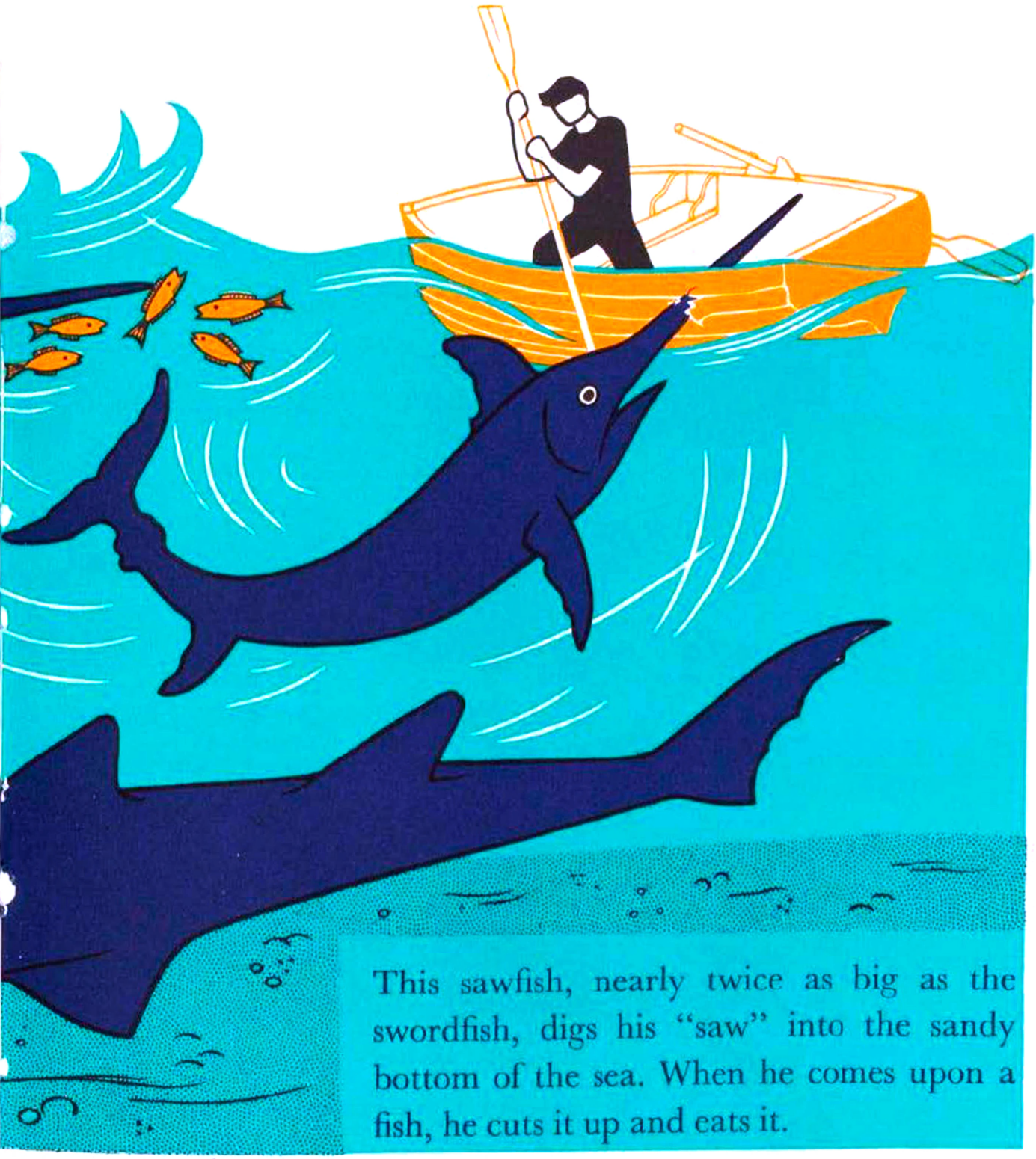


When the cuttlefish is attacked he pours out a thick cloud of ink. While his enemy gropes in the darkness he makes his escape.

Fishes that Fight with Swords and Saws

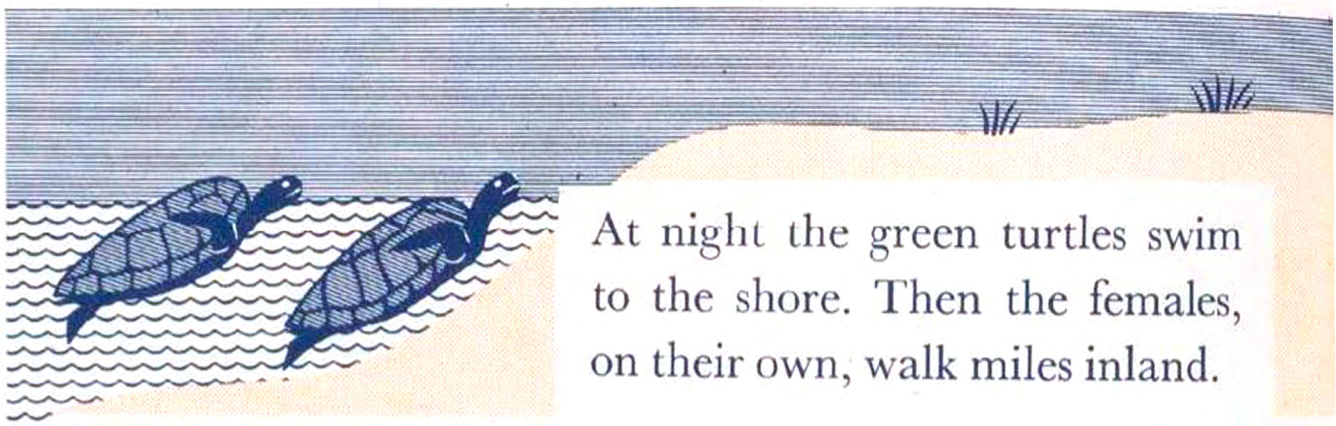


The South Pacific swordfish, nearly as long as a bus, uses his long sword-like nose to slash the smaller fish. He is tremendously strong. He has been known to charge at a small boat and drive his sharp "sword" clean through its side.



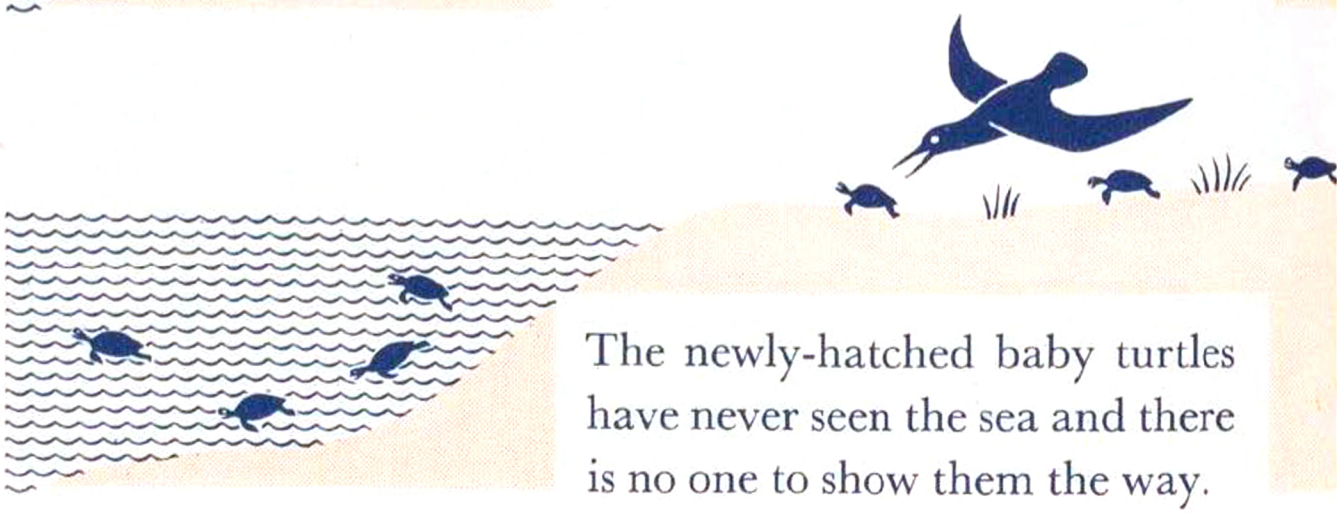
This sawfish, nearly twice as big as the swordfish, digs his "saw" into the sandy bottom of the sea. When he comes upon a fish, he cuts it up and eats it.

They Go Straight to the Sea They Have



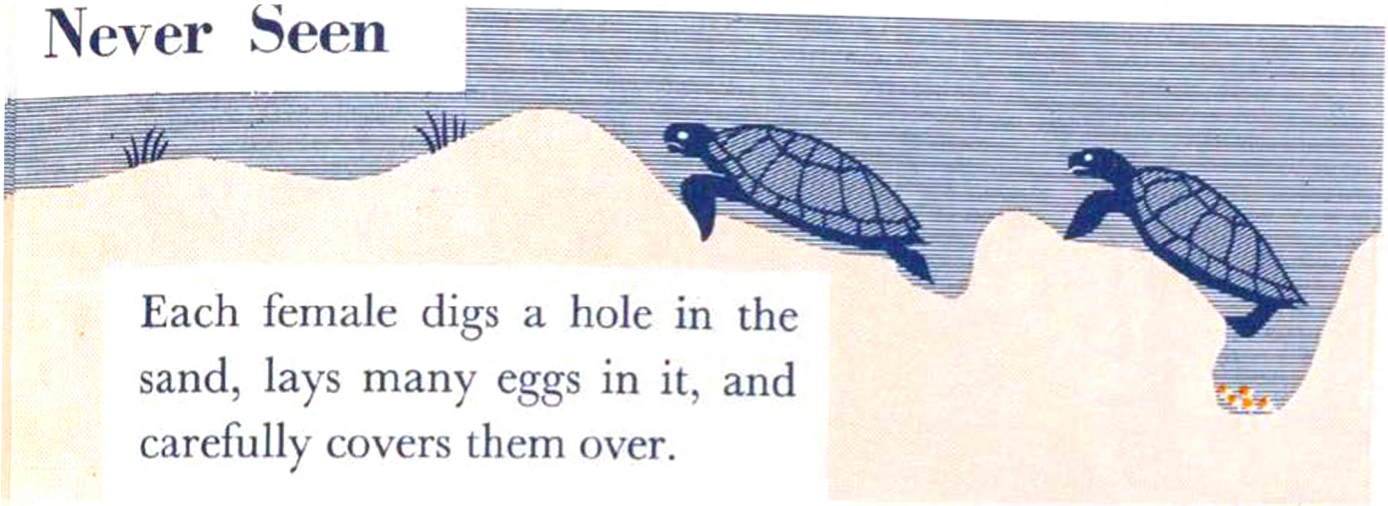
At night the green turtles swim to the shore. Then the females, on their own, walk miles inland.

The same night the females go back to the sea and swim away.

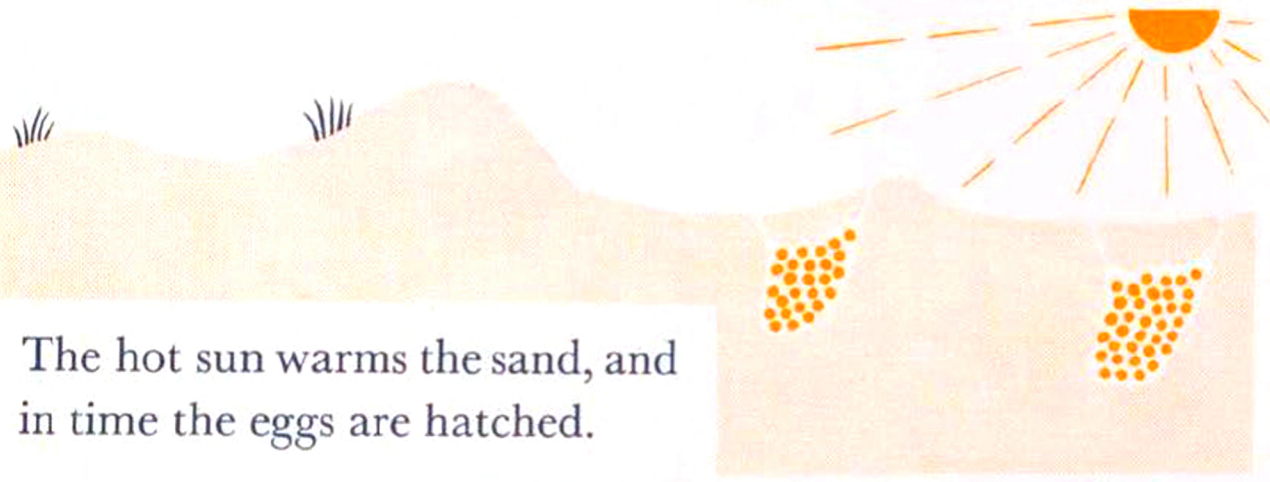


The newly-hatched baby turtles have never seen the sea and there is no one to show them the way.

Never Seen



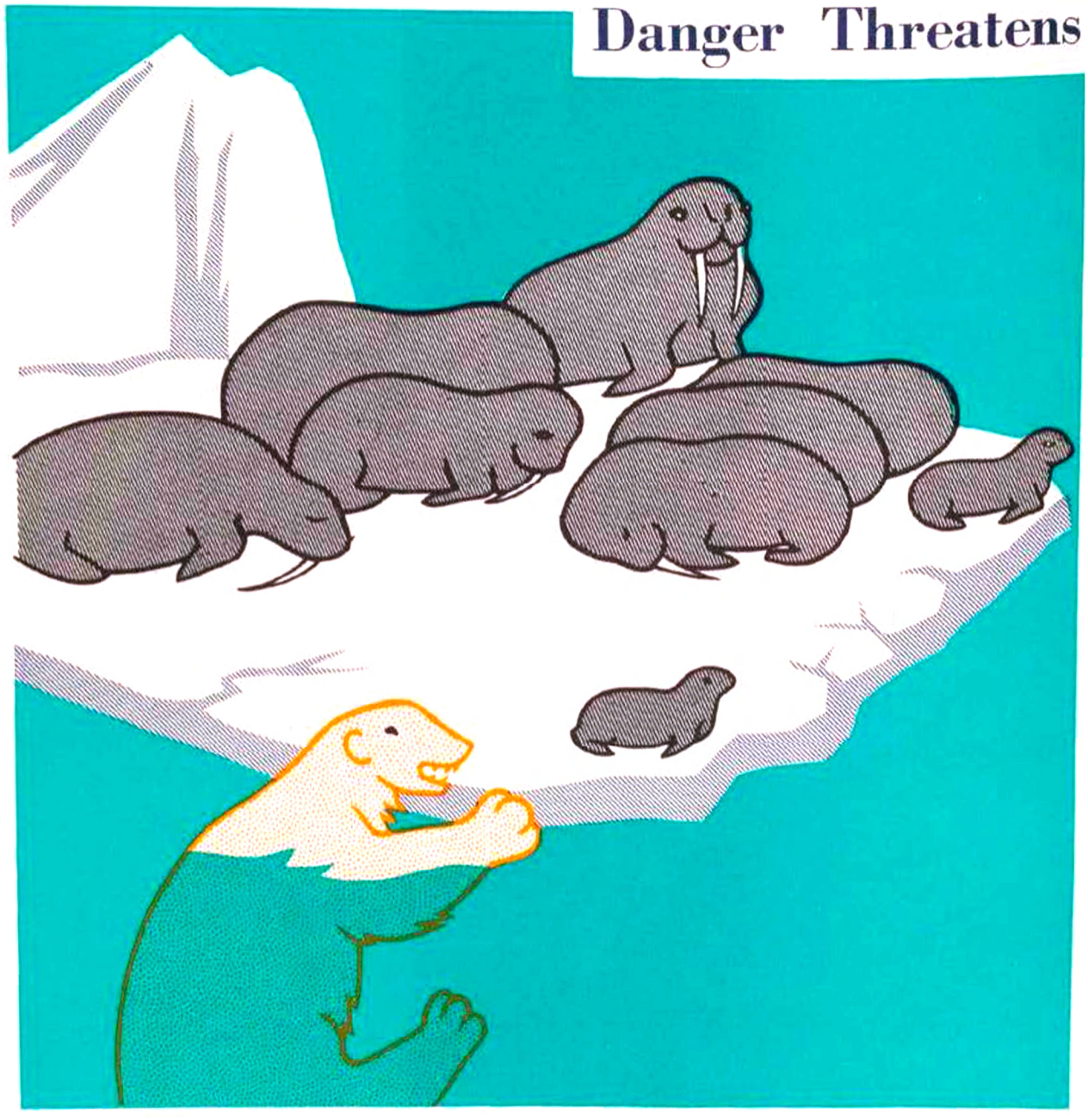
Each female digs a hole in the sand, lays many eggs in it, and carefully covers them over.



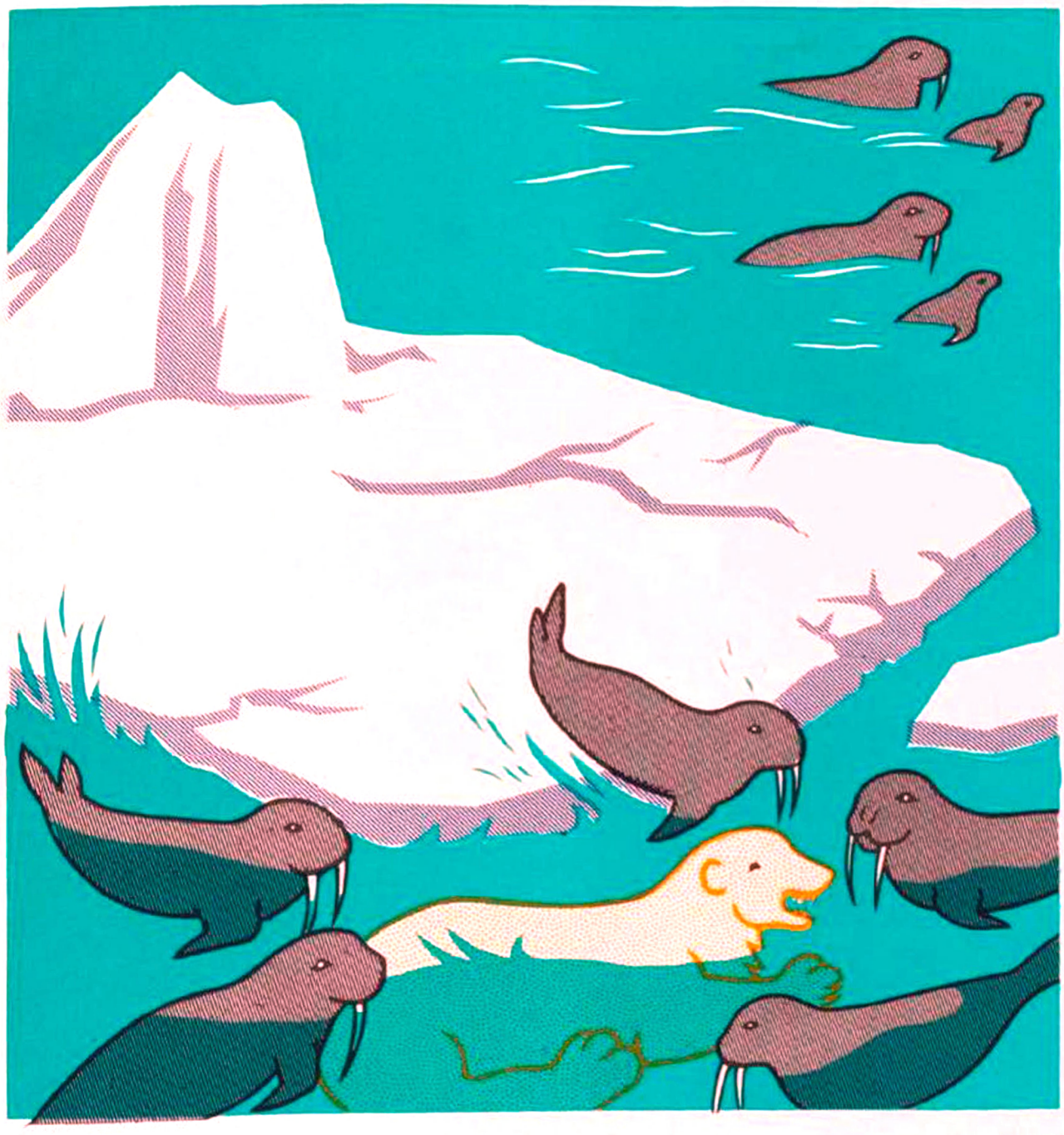
The hot sun warms the sand, and in time the eggs are hatched.

Yet they all go straight towards it. But not all reach it. Some are caught by frigate birds.

The Sentinel Calls the Guard When Danger Threatens

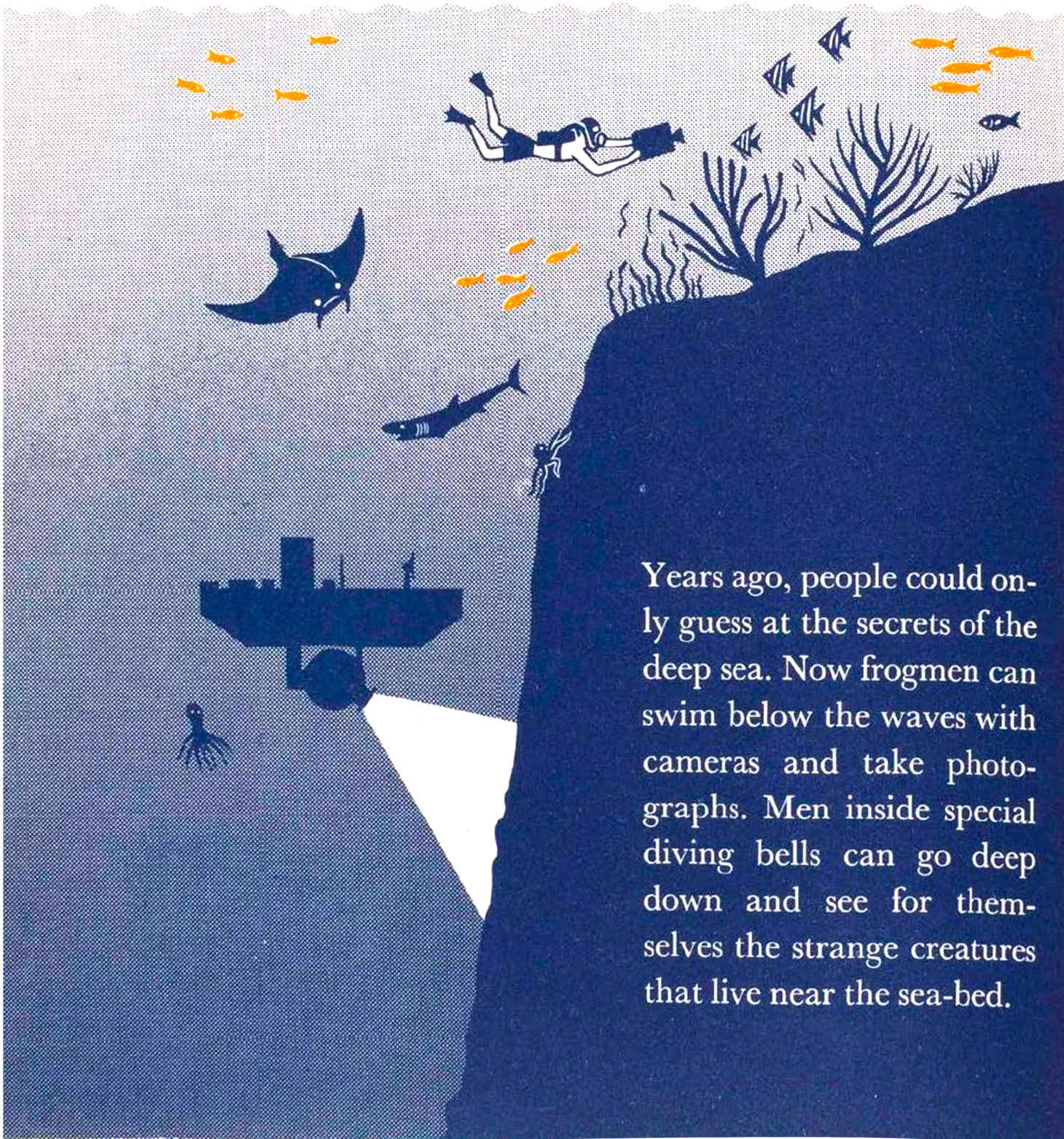


While the walruses lie sleepily on the ice, a polar bear stretches a paw towards a baby. But one walrus is on guard.



He gives the alarm. The mothers swim off with the babies while the others surround the bear and prevent him following.

Learning the Secrets of the Deep Sea



Years ago, people could only guess at the secrets of the deep sea. Now frogmen can swim below the waves with cameras and take photographs. Men inside special diving bells can go deep down and see for themselves the strange creatures that live near the sea-bed.

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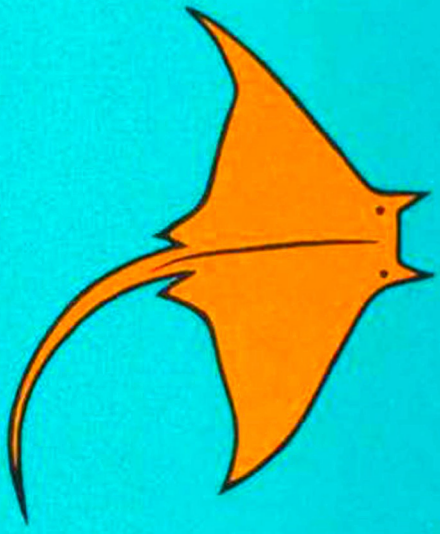
All uniform with this book



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